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Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif unveils the plaque of inauguration of Rathoa-Haryam Bridge in Muzaffarabad .

Balochistan CM Sarfraz Bugti says he will not be intimidated by tribal chiefs

■ Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti condemns remarks about women in the assembly, while lawmakers raise concerns over gas shortages, high bills and power outages.

STAFF REPORTER
QUETTA

Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has said he does not wish to respond to an interview given by a provincial assembly member, adding that his government has never bowed to terrorist organisations and would not be intimidated by any tribal chief.

The Balochistan Assembly met under the chairmanship of Speaker Abdul Khaliq Achakzai. During the session, Bugti condemned remarks made about a woman member of the assembly and his sister, saying the traditions of the House had been undermined.



He said his upbringing did not allow him to make inappropriate remarks about women and expressed shame at sitting in an assembly where members made such comments.

Member of the Provincial Assembly Farah Azeem Shah said respect for women, hospitality and courage were important social traditions. Describing the chief minister as a frontline civilian soldier in the fight against terrorism, she said she left the remarks about her character to Allah.

During the session, lawmaker Haji Ali Madad Jatak said citizens were facing difficulties because of low gas pressure, heavy bills and electricity outages. He warned that lawmakers should not be pushed into staging protests outside the offices of the Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) and Sui Southern Gas Company.

The speaker summoned the QESCO chief and officials of Sui Southern Gas Company to the assembly. The session was subsequently adjourned until 3pm on November 20.

Parliament will decide on referendum for new provinces: Rana Sanaullah

■ He advised PPP chairman not to attach too much importance to statements made by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and Defence Minister Khawaja Asif

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister's Adviser on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah has said that any decision regarding the creation or reduction of provinces in Pakistan, whether their number increases to 32 or remains at 12, will be made through political consensus.

Rana Sanaullah said parliament was fully empowered to decide on the matter, rejecting Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's assertion that parliament lacked such authority.



He clarified that discussions on creating new provinces had not yet taken place in the federal cabinet or parliament and were currently being held at seminars.

Once the matter is formally brought before parliament, all political parties will have the opportunity to participate in the debate.

The adviser added that any decision to hold a referendum on the issue would also rest with parliament. If parliament decided in favour of a referendum, the exercise could be conducted accordingly.

Commenting on Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's recent press conference, Sanaullah described his remarks as contradictory and said there was no need for such a strong response. He also advised the PPP chairman not to attach too much importance to statements made by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and Defence Minister Khawaja Asif.

Sanaullah further noted that Bilawal had stated that no one had yet consulted him on the proposed creation of new provinces.

He also said President Asif Ali Zardari had raised no grievances during his recent meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.



PTI MPs meet Pervaiz Elahi amid emerging political situation

Staff Reporter
LAHORE

Lawmakers of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) met party Central President Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi to discuss the prevailing political situation and growing public concerns over inflation.

Those attending the meeting included Rana Shahbaz Ahmed, Abdul Razaq Khan, Wasim Baduzai and Owais Virk. Saeed Virk, Saleem Labar and former Principal Secretary Muhammad Khan Bhatti were also present.

During the meeting, Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi expressed concern over the continuous rise in inflation, saying that increasing prices had made life increasingly difficult for ordinary citizens.

He said the growing financial burden on the public had made it difficult for people to meet their daily needs.



Bilawal rightly pointed out 'failures' in political system: Salman Akram

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Secretary General Salman Akram Raja has said the country's system has collapsed, endorsing Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's remarks on the state of the political system.

Speaking to the media outside Adiala Jail on Tuesday, Raja questioned the government's ability to run the country, saying that if the prime minister could not control his ministers, it was difficult to see how the system could function effectively.

He said PTI was the country's largest political party and could not be ignored under any circumstances. He added that moving forward politically without incorporating the demands of PTI founder Imran Khan into negotiations was not possible.



Pakistan, China agree to strengthen strategic partnership

■ Pakistan and China agreed to strengthen security ties and law enforcement cooperation, with Beijing set to send Chinese-language instructors to train Pakistan's Special Protection Unit personnel.

STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan and China have agreed to strengthen their strategic partnership, enhance security cooperation and expand coordination between their law enforcement agencies.

The understanding was reached during a meeting in Islamabad between Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry and Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong.

During the meeting, both sides agreed to improve coordination and cooperation between their respective law enforcement agencies to make their collaboration more effective.

It was also decided that Chinese instructors would soon visit Pakistan to teach the Chinese language to personnel of the Special Protection Unit (SPU).

Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong assured Pakistan of continued support for the establishment of a law enforcement centre in Islamabad, which is being developed along the lines of a similar facility in China.

The ambassador also appreciated Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi for his proactive role in extending cooperation and ensuring the timely resolution of issues.

Maryam Nawaz announces new law to ensure strict punishment for child exploitation

■ Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz announces new legislation, fast-track courts and enhanced safety measures to protect children and women from

CITY REPORTER
LAHORE

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has announced plans to introduce new legislation to ensure stringent punishment for individuals involved in the exploitation of children and women. She also said that special fast-track courts are being established to strengthen their protection.

In a message marking the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence, Maryam Nawaz said that safeguarding



children's rights was essential to building a safe and civilized society. She stressed that effective measures were necessary to protect children's safety, dignity and future.

The chief minister emphasized that protecting children from sexual exploitation, abuse and all forms of violence was a shared responsibility of society.

Pakistan Army successfully tests Fatah-3 supersonic cruise missile

■ Pakistan Army successfully launches the Fatah-3 supersonic cruise missile Strengthening the strike capabilities of its Rocket Force Command.

STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Army has successfully conducted the launch of the Fatah-3 Supersonic Cruise Missile, marking another significant milestone in the country's efforts to strengthen its national defence capabilities, the military's media wing announced on Wednesday.

The missile is equipped with advanced navigation and propulsion systems, enabling it to engage targets at long ranges with high precision and lethality while travelling at supersonic speed.

The successful launch is expected to significantly enhance the operational flexibility and strike



reach of the Pakistan Army's Rocket Force Command, further strengthening the country's conventional deterrence and overall defence posture.

The launch was witnessed by the Commander of Army Rocket Force Command, senior officers of the Pakistan Armed Forces, as well as scientists and engineers involved in the development of the weapon system.

Following the successful launch, the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan, the Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defence Forces, and the Services Chiefs congratulated the team and commended the achievement.

They also appreciated the dedication and commitment of all personnel, scientists and engineers who contributed to the development of the missile system, describing the launch as another important step in advancing Pakistan's national defence capabilities.

CamScanner

Mustafa Kamal slams Bilawal for talking about shedding blood of Mohajirs

- MQM-P leader accuses PPP chairman of using 'Sindh Card'



SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Federal Health Minister and MQM-P leader Syed Mustafa Kamal on Wednesday said that he was saddened by PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's yesterday's speech,

Speaking at Islamabad Press Club, he said it was unfortunate that Bilawal talked about shedding the blood of the people belonging to Mohajir community. "Late prime minister Benazir Bhutto was killed in Rawalpindi, but Karachi witnessed violence on a large-scale," he said, adding that the businesses of Mohajirs were set ablaze in Karachi and Hyderabad according to a well-orchestrated plan.

"Even Mohajir women were not spared and they were raped," Kamal claimed.

The minister made it clear to Bilawal that in case of bloodshed in Karachi or any other part of Sindh, he would be responsible for that.

He said it was an irony that the PPP chairman turned a blind eye to what he called 'genocide' of Mohajirs for the last 79 years.

Kamal accused Bilawal of using 'Sindh Card' for his political interests.



A vendor displaying fish to attract the customers at his roadside setup.

Gandhara Strategic Dialogue opens in Islamabad, bringing together Buddhist leaders from across Asia

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

The Gandhara Strategic Dialogue opened on Wednesday here at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, drawing more than 100 participants, including senior Buddhist monastics, ministers, diplomats and heritage experts, to discuss the preservation and promotion of Pakistan's Buddhist heritage.

Held under the theme "Towards a Shared Future," the event is organised in partnership with the Prime Minister's Task Force on the Gandhara "Cradle of Buddhism" Strategy, which operates under the Ministry of National Heritage and Culture, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs news release said.

Monastics and representatives of Buddhist communities from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam attended the opening session. Ministers, parliamentarians,



diplomats and Gandhara experts from China, Germany and the United States also took part.

Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture and Task Force Chairman Aurangzeb Khan Khichi, the chief guest, stressed the importance of safeguarding Gandhara's heritage. He reaffirmed the Task Force's commitment to expanding its work.

In his welcome remarks, Foreign Secretary Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad reaffirmed Pakistan's support for the Gandhara initiative. He described the region's shared heritage as a bridge connecting countries and communities, and acknowledged the contributions of Imran Shaukat, Coordinator of the Prime Minister's Task Force on Gandhara.

Addressing the gathering, Imran Shaukat highlighted Gandhara's spiritual significance for Buddhists worldwide. He outlined measures to facilitate pilgrimages, improve access to heritage sites and promote monastic learning, to be pursued in consultation with the Sangha. The visiting monastics expressed appreciation for Pakistan's efforts and offered their support and guidance.

At the session, curator Ms. Elli Takagaki unveiled Colours of Pakistan: Gandhara Edition, a coffee-table book showcasing Gandharan sites, Buddhist monastics and diplomats.

Over the next two days, thematic sessions will address pilgrimage facilitation, international promotion of Gandhara, heritage conservation, research partnerships, preservation of sacred scrolls, tourism infrastructure and local community engagement. The Dialogue will conclude at the National Heritage and Culture Division.

US court jails Asif Merchant for 27 years over alleged plot to assassinate Trump

WEB DESK
ISLAMABAD



A US judge sentenced a Pakistani man to ?more than 27 years in prison for plotting in 2024 to kill President Donald Trump and other prominent US politicians at the behest of Iran, the Department of Justice said on Tuesday.

"Earlier today, in federal court in Brooklyn, ?Asif Merchant, 48, of Pakistan, was sentenced by US District Judge Eric R Komitee ?to 330 months in prison for attempting to commit an act of ?terrorism transcending national boundaries and murder for hire," the DOJ said in a statement.

Prosecutors said Merchant ?tried to recruit people in the US in a plan targeting Trump and others in ?retaliation for Washington's killing of Iranian military commander Qassem Soleimani in 2020, when Trump was in his first term.

Targets in the 2024 plot also included then-President Joe Biden and Nikki Haley, who ran against Trump that ?year for the Republican presidential nomination, federal prosecutors said.

A federal jury in March convicted Merchant ?of traveling to the US to arrange for political assassinations on American soil, according to the Justice Department.

That ?trial ?in the New York City borough of Brooklyn started in late February, days before Trump ordered an assault on Iran, carried out with Israel, that marked the start of the Iran war.

Punjab steps up Madrasa registration drive issues certificates to 19 religious seminaries

- Punjab accelerates madrasa registration through an online system, issuing certificates to 19 seminaries while 68 have completed initial registration formalities.

SPECIAL REPORTER
LAHORE

The registration of religious seminaries is continuing at the Punjab Charities Commission, operating under the Punjab Home Department, with a special registration desk established to guide seminaries and facilitate the registration process.

The registration process is being carried out through the Punjab Charities Commission's online portal to ensure a simple and speedy procedure.

Under the simplified and transparent mechanism, seminaries are being registered within seven days of submitting their



applications.

All seminaries registered with the Directorate General of Religious Education or under the Societies Registration Act are eligible to complete their registration with the commission.

The registration will facilitate seminaries in meeting legal and administrative requirements related to charitable activities, as well as matters concerning bank accounts.

Punjab govt assures seminary leaders of autonomy, resolves registration and bank account issues Following registration with the Punjab Charities Commission, religious seminaries can easily open bank accounts in their own names. The process is also aimed at strengthening donors' confidence and ensuring transparency.

The commission's registration services are available round the clock, seven days a week.

The Punjab Home Department has also released details of the registration process.

So far, 68 religious seminaries have completed the sign-up process, while 24 seminaries have submitted all the required information for registration.

The Punjab Charities Commission has issued registration certificates to 19 religious seminaries.

On the directions of the Punjab government, the commission is maintaining regular contact with religious seminaries across the province.According to official figures, the commission has reached out to 2,756 seminaries through telephone calls and contacted another 1,646 through SMS messages.

In addition, 31 meetings and visits have been conducted to establish direct contact with religious seminaries and facilitate their registration.

The Punjab Charities Commission has streamlined and coordinated the registration process to make it easier for religious seminaries.

First selection list for MBBS admissions in Punjab's government medical colleges released

STAFF REPORTER
LAHORE



The first selection list for MBBS admissions in government medical colleges across Punjab has been released, with the minimum closing merit for open-merit seats standing at 93.297 per cent.According to a spokesperson for the University of Health Sciences (UHS), King Edward Medical College, Lahore, recorded the highest closing merit at 95.3697 per cent, while Rasul University Medical College, Mandi Bahauddin, recorded the lowest at 93.297 per cent.

The spokesperson said that a total of 3,796 open-merit seats have been allocated across 19 government medical colleges in the province.

MDCAT 2026 concludes across Pakistan with 138,158 candidates registered

According to the UHS spokesperson, Maryam Nawaz Sharif Medical College, Mianwali, established this year, recorded a minimum closing merit of 93.3121 per cent. Rasul University Medical College, Mandi Bahauddin, had the lowest closing merit at 93.297 per cent.



Workers prepare kite-flying strings during preparations for the upcoming (2027)Basant Festival

Punjab bans jeans for male and female teachers in new school dress code

- Punjab bans jeans, shorts and indoor sunglasses for government school teachers under a new dress code outlining separate clothing guidelines for men and women.

SPECIAL REPORTER
LAHORE



The Punjab School Education Department has introduced a new dress code for teachers working in government schools across the province, prohibiting both male and female teachers from wearing jeans.

Under the revised guidelines, teachers will also be barred from wearing shorts and using sunglasses inside school buildings.

The department has directed male teachers to wear waistcoats or formal trousers with shirts while making closed shoes mandatory. However, wearing sandals with socks has been allowed.

For female teachers, the new dress code prohibits high-heeled footwear, sleeveless outfits and see-through clothing.

Female teachers have been instructed to wear a dupatta or scarf with formal attire. However, wearing hijabs and abayas will remain permitted under the new guidelines.

The School Education Department has directed the heads of all government schools across Punjab to ensure immediate implementation of the revised dress code.

CamScanner

ECO backs Pakistan's peace push

The Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) on Monday threw its collective weight behind Pakistan's diplomatic efforts to end the Iran-US conflict, welcoming Tehran's latest peace initiative and calling for a complete and permanent termination of the war, in a significant regional endorsement of Islamabad's mediation efforts.

The Islamabad Communique, adopted at the 30th meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers, specifically appreciated Pakistan's role in facilitating the Islamabad peace talks and the resulting Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), as well as its participation in subsequent negotiations in Burgenstock, Switzerland.



The 10-member regional organisation also expressed support for the mediation efforts undertaken by Pakistan and Qatar and welcomed Iran's recent initiative aimed at achieving a "dignified resolution" of the conflict and ensuring the "complete and permanent termination" of the ongoing war.

The communique, while expressing concern over the challenging geopolitical environment, called for restraint, dialogue and diplomatic engagement, reaffirming the importance of resolving disputes through diplomacy, respect for international law and mutual trust.Speaking at a news conference after chairing the ECO ministerial meeting, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar reiterated that Pakistan had not abandoned hopes of bringing Washington and Tehran back to the negotiating table.

Dar said Islamabad was still awaiting Washington's response to Iran's latest proposals and would continue pursuing diplomatic efforts. "We have discussed the latest situation. The response from the US is pending. We have not given up on our efforts. We are still trying. Let's hope for the best," he said.

Dar's remarks followed his meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, who visited Islamabad to attend the ECO meeting. The two foreign ministers discussed the latest regional developments, particularly the Iran-US conflict and ongoing efforts to revive the diplomatic process.

Dar said the earlier proposal envisaged a seven-day period for the diplomatic process, but the timeline had now been fast-tracked to two days. He did not disclose further details about the proposed arrangement or the response Islamabad was expecting from Washington.

Separately, the Islamabad Communique also commended Qatar for its role as a trusted facilitator of international diplomacy, particularly its mediation efforts at the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly.

It also rejected unilateral coercive measures, sanctions and economic pressures, including their extraterritorial effects, saying such measures were contrary to the UN Charter and international law and undermined global economic stability, supply chains and the provision of food. medicines, energy and humanitarian assistance.The endorsement provides a significant multilateral dimension to Pakistan's mediation efforts at a time when Islamabad is seeking to prevent further escalation and restore diplomatic engagement between the United States and Iran.

Makkah Pact meetingDar announced that Islamabad would host a high-level meeting of the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement in the last week of November.

bringing together senior civil and military leadership from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Turkiye.

Explaining the agreement, Dar said it was essentially defensive in nature and based on the principle that an attack on one member would be treated as an attack on all three. "This region should have its own regional security structure," he said, adding that the arrangement was not directed against any particular country.

He said the institutional framework of the alliance – signed by Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Turkiye on August 7 – was being developed and the forthcoming Islamabad meeting would review its progress as well as the evolving regional security situation.

Afghanistan's absence

Dar's news conference also focused extensively on Pakistan's strained relations with Afghanistan, with the foreign minister reiterating that Islamabad's principal demand from the Taliban authorities was verifiable action against terrorist groups operating from Afghan territory.

Asked why Afghanistan had not been invited to the ECO ministerial meeting despite being a member Dar said the ECO Secretariat had suspended its membership. "Yes, in the past, Taliban representatives attended some sub-ministerial meetings. The ECO Secretariat can shed more light on that," he said.

The Islamabad Communique acknowledged the need for continued consultations with member states to address Afghanistan's engagement with ECO, with a view to ensuring its full and effective participation once circumstances permit.

In its decisions, the communique called for meaningful progress on the concerns of member states to lay the basis for Afghanistan's participation in ECO activities and processes.

Dar, meanwhile, made it clear that Pakistan's position towards Kabul remained unchanged, insisting that Islamabad had only one demand: verifiable action against terrorist groups using Afghan territory to launch attacks against Pakistan.

Forgotten Kinship with Habasha



Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood

Growing up in Pakistan, few of us escaped the story of Hazrat Bilal ibn Rabah (RA). It reached us through a grandmother's bedtime telling, a Friday sermon, or a schoolbook chapter. Almost every one of us learnt of the man whose tongue uttered Ahad, Ahad while lying on the scorching sands of Makkah with a rock on his chest and the Quraish's cruelty on his back. We learnt of the man whom the Holy Prophet (SAW) chose to be the first muezzin of Islam, whose voice first carried the call to prayer over Madinah.

What we seldom paused to consider is where that story leads geographically. Hazrat Bilal (RA) was born in Makkah to a mother from Habasha, as Ethiopia was then known, and was counted among the earliest Muslims to publicly proclaim faith in the oneness of Allah. He is remembered as the first prominent African Muslim, and in him Islam's message of equality found its most enduring illustration. In a society ordered by lineage and colour, the Prophet (SAW) raised a freed slave of Abyssinian descent to one of the most honoured positions in the young community.

Habasha is also the land to which the persecuted Muslims of Makkah made their first Hijra, years before Madinah. The Prophet (SAW) is reported to have said that there was a king there in whose realm no one was wronged. The Negus, King Ashama ibn Abjar, did not disappoint. He heard the Muslim delegation out, refused to surrender them to the Quraish envoys, and offered protection. Islam, therefore, reached Africa not by conquest but by justice, fairness and equality. The Al-Nejashi Mosque in Negash, in the Tigray region, is traditionally regarded as among the oldest mosques on the continent, a living reminder of that moment. Few countries in the Muslim world can claim such a founding relationship with the faith, and fewer still are as casually overlooked in our popular imagination.

With this history in mind, I recently visited the Ethiopian Embassy in Islamabad, which opened its doors only in 2022. I was hosted by H.E. Dr. Oumer Hussien Oba, Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Pakistan, over a cup of coffee prepared in the traditional manner.Anyone who has attended an Ethiopian coffee ceremony knows it is not a beverage but a ritual. The green beans are roasted before your eyes, and the aroma of coffee and burning incense fills the room. The brew emerges from a clay pot called Jebena and is served in small cups across three rounds. One does not rush it. It is the exact opposite of the desk-side paper cup that has come to define our working lives, and it was an apt setting for a conversation about patience, partnership and long memories. Ethiopia, after all, is the birthplace of coffee itself. There is a certain poetry in the fact that a nation that gave the world its favourite morning habit is now quietly asking Pakistan for something simpler. It wants us to widen our footprint in Africa through Ethiopia, a gateway to a continent of 1.6 billion people, vast untapped resources and culturally enriched horizons.

Over that cup, ideas were exchanged and fresh commitments made to bring the two countries closer, at a level that, frankly, should have been reached long ago. It struck me during the conversation how much we share. Both nations are young, populous and ambitious, with large youth populations that represent either a dividend or a burden depending on how wisely they are educated and employed. Both are agrarian economies seeking industrial depth. Both are navigating a rapidly changing global order in which Global South partnerships matter more than they did a generation ago.

The room for practical cooperation is considerable. As an academic, I find education and research the most promising and the most neglected avenue, since universities in both countries can build faculty exchanges, joint research programmes and scholarships. Agriculture offers complementary lessons, with Ethiopia's experience in highland farming, coffee and livestock set beside Pakistan's in irrigation and cereals. Trade has a natural logic too. Pakistani pharmaceuticals, textiles, surgical goods and rice have a ready market in East Africa, while Ethiopian coffee, sesame, leather and spices deserve a place on our shelves. And better connectivity, with Ethiopian Airlines and its vast African network as a natural partner, along with cultural weeks and student exchanges, can make a distant country feel familiar.

It is tempting to leave the matter at sentiment. Shared faith and shared history are a wonderful beginning, but they are not a policy. Pakistan's engagement with Africa has too often been episodic, with a visit here and a communiqué there, and little follow-through. The opening of the Ethiopian mission in Islamabad is an invitation, and an invitation unanswered is a courtesy wasted.

In my humble opinion, Ethiopia should be treated as a strategic entry point to Africa rather than a line in a regional brief, with regular political consultations and a standing joint commission that actually meets. The Higher Education Commission and our leading universities should open scholarship windows and sign faculty exchange agreements with Ethiopian institutions this academic year, not at some convenient point in the future. Chambers of commerce and export bodies owe our businessmen a serious look at the Ethiopian market, including trade delegations, sector-specific fairs and clear guidance on logistics and payments, so that interest turns into shipments. Our media and our teachers carry a duty as well, since a nation cannot befriend a country it has never been introduced to. Let a few pages of our textbooks and a few minutes of our airtime go to Ethiopia's history, its languages, its music and, yes, its coffee. And each of us, as individuals, can start small by visiting the embassy's cultural events, meeting Ethiopian students in our cities, and carrying the story of Bilal (RA) beyond the sermon and into curiosity about the land his mother came from.If the story of Hazrat Bilal (RA) teaches us anything beyond devotion, it is that dignity belongs to the steadfast, and that connections forged in sincerity outlast the circumstances that created them. A friendship that began on the shores of the Red Sea over fourteen centuries ago deserves better than nostalgia. The next time we hear the azan, we might remember that its first voice carried a bridge between Arabia and Africa. The least we can do is walk across it.

Kashmir at 78: Broken Promises, Endless Repression and the World's Failure

By: Muhammad Ibrahim Bhatti



Seventy-eight years after the Kashmir dispute reached the United Nations, the promise of self-determination remains unfulfilled, while repression continues to define everyday life in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Instead of honouring its international commitments, India has intensified military operations, arbitrary arrests, home demolitions and restrictions on political dissent. The developments of November 2026 expose a painful contradiction: a state that claims democratic legitimacy continues to deny millions of Kashmiris the right to decide their political future. The question is no longer how long Kashmiris must wait for justice, but how long the international community will continue to look away.

November carries a particular weight in this betrayal. In November 1947, the Kashmir dispute was brought before the United Nations, placing the future of the territory on the international agenda. The Security Council subsequently adopted resolutions calling for a free and impartial plebiscite so that Kashmiris could decide their political future.

Jawaharlal Nehru also made public commitments to allow the people of Kashmir to exercise this choice. Yet, seventy-eight years later, the promise remains unfulfilled. India has refused to implement these commitments while maintaining a massive military presence in the territory. The question is unavoidable: if India's claim enjoys the consent of the Kashmiri people, why has it never allowed them to express that consent through a plebiscite?This denial of political choice has also shaped India's security response in the region. Whenever an attack occurs in IIOJK, India immediately points the finger at Pakistan. However, this narrative raises serious questions that deserve independent scrutiny. How do such attacks take place in a territory under extensive military surveillance and security control? More importantly, why do their aftermaths so often bring intensified cordon-and-search operations, mass arrests and reports of civilian killings? Security concerns cannot justify collective punishment or the indiscriminate targeting of a population. Nor should every demand for political rights be reduced to a security threat. The central issue remains unchanged: Kashmiris continue to seek the right to decide their future, while the political and human costs of denying that right continue to mount.Pakistan's position has never wavered and never will. The Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah made it permanent when he declared Kashmir the jugular vein of Pakistan — not rhetoric, but an existential truth that every generation of Pakistan's leadership has reaffirmed. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif told the AJK Assembly: Kashmir will become part of Pakistan. At the UN General Assembly he demanded implementation of Security Council resolutions. Field Marshal Asim Munir has stated that the people of IIOJK will see a new dawn of freedom, and that Pakistan's bond with Kashmir is one of faith, history and blood that no occupation can sever. Pakistan raised this cause before the world in 1947. It is raising it today. It will raise it tomorrow. As long as a single Kashmiri remains under occupation, Pakistan will not be silent.The world has watched for 78 years. It has passed resolutions, held debates and done nothing that costs India anything. Every year of silence is a year India reads as permission to raid more homes, kill more youth and bury more plebiscite demands under military boots. November 2026 is another anniversary of a promise made and broken. The numbers, the documented evidence and a living man who survived his own death announcement have settled whether India is committing atrocities in IIOJK. The only question left is whether the world has the conscience to act on what it already knows. Because if 78 years of repression, one million troops and a blocked plebiscite are not enough, Modi's India has spent 78 years perfecting the art of fooling the world — with staged encounters, manufactured victories and borrowed democratic language wrapped around a military occupation.

Security Council resolutions. Field Marshal Asim Munir has stated that the people of IIOJK will see a new dawn of freedom, and that Pakistan's bond with Kashmir is one of faith, history and blood that no occupation can sever. Pakistan raised this cause before the world in 1947. It is raising it today. It will raise it tomorrow. As long as a single Kashmiri remains under occupation, Pakistan will not be silent.The world has watched for 78 years. It has passed resolutions, held debates and done nothing that costs India anything. Every year of silence is a year India reads as permission to raid more homes, kill more youth and bury more plebiscite demands under military boots. November 2026 is another anniversary of a promise made and broken. The numbers, the documented evidence and a living man who survived his own death announcement have settled whether India is committing atrocities in IIOJK.

CamScanner



November : Government's Reforms Deliver Largest LPG Shipment as SLL Receives Cargo of 15,000 Metric Tons.

Online customs valuation hearings to begin at Lahore: FBR Chairman

■ Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Rashid Mahmood Langrial said on Tuesday that a dedicated online hearing room for customs valuation cases will become operational at Lahore, enabling Lahore-based importers to pursue their cases locally without travelling to Karachi.

Special Correspondent
ISLAMABAD

Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Rashid Mahmood Langrial said on Tuesday that a dedicated online hearing room for customs valuation cases will become operational at Lahore, enabling Lahore-based importers to pursue their cases locally without travelling to Karachi.
He also announced that a new online system to address exporters' pending tax refund claims would become operational by December, providing facilities for online submission and processing of documents and resolution of refund claims



within defined timelines. He further stated that 30 percent more refunds were being issued this year compared to the previous year.
He was addressing the business community here at Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI). LCCI President Ali Hussam Asghar presented n, the welcome address and highlighted the key challenges confronting the business community, along with practical proposals for their resolution. Senior Vice President Sardar Usman Ghani, Vice President Chaudhry Khadim Hussain, members of the Executive Committee, senior business leaders and a large number of traders and industrialists were also present.
The FBR Chairman said the proposal to further empower the Director of Customs Valuation Lahore and provide the office would also be considered. The objective was to facilitate importers and make the customs valuation process more accessible and efficient for the business community.



Pakistan cotton arrivals rise 7pc to nearly 5 million bales

Business Reporter
ISLAMABAD

Cotton arrivals at ginning factories across Pakistan rose 7 percent to 47,43,000 bales as of October 31, compared with 4,437,256 bales in the corresponding period last year, According to the Pakistan Cotton Ginners' Association (PCGA), the total arrivals of 4,432,836 bales had been pressed, while 309,794 bales remained unginned, compared with 312,126 bales last year.
A total of 4,094,596 bales had been sold, including 3,996,596 bales to textile mills and 98,000 bales to exporters and traders. No bales were purchased under the TCP category during the period.
Unsold stock with ginners stood at 338,240 bales. Combined with unginned stock, total unsold stock stood at 648,034 bales, compared with 693,818 bales a year earlier.Punjab's arrivals stood at 1,998,944 bales. Of this, 1,873,774 bales were pressed, and 1,726,641 bales were sold, comprising 1,723,041 bales to textile mills and 3,600 bales to exporters and traders.

Punjab to develop 250acre industrial park in Gujranwala Shafay Hussain

■ He said Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz had introduced a new industrial policy allowing investors to acquire plots in industrial estates on a lease basis to establish industrial units.

Staff Reporter
Gujranwala

Punjab Minister for Industries and Commerce Chaudhry Shafay Hussain has announced the development of a 250-acre industrial park in Gujranwala, where existing industries will be relocated and new industrial units established.
Addressing industrialists and later talking to reporters during his visit to the Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the minister said the Punjab government would provide all possible support for establishing a dry port in the city.
He said Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz had introduced a new industrial policy allowing investors to acquire plots in industrial estates on a lease basis to establish industrial units.
Shafay Hussain said the policy would pave the way for an industrial revolution in Punjab, while interest-free and easy loan schemes were helping promote industrial and commercial activities.
He encouraged Gujranwala's industrialists to benefit from the financing schemes, saying Punjab had attracted billions of rupees in domestic and foreign investment over the past two



and a half years.
The minister said establishing new factories in industrial hubs had created employment opportunities, while promoting the electric vehicle sector remained a government priority.
He said the chief minister had approved funds to improve infrastructure at the Small Industries Estate in Gujranwala.
Shafay Hussain inaugurated a five-megawatt grid station at Small Industrial Estate 4 and reviewed electricity supply arrangements for industrial units.
He said a 10-bed Social Security Hospital would soon become operational, while instructions had been issued to improve security at the industrial estate.
Addressing environmental concerns, the minister said the Punjab government was taking measures to control air pollution and directed industries to ensure full compliance with environmental protection standard operating procedures.
He said all industrial units should install

Gold rates stabilise after six straight sessions of decline

■ In the international market, gold was recorded at $3,864 per ounce

Business Reporter
KARACHI



Gold prices across Pakistan stabilised on Tuesday after declining for six consecutive days in local and international markets.
According to the All Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association, the price of 24-karat gold remained unchanged at Rs408,936 per tola.
Similarly, the price of 10-gram gold held steady at Rs350,596.
Meanwhile, silver prices also remained unchanged, with one tola priced at Rs5,228. In the international market, gold was recorded at $3,864 per ounce.

PSX opens higher, crosses 179,000 mark amid bullish trend

■ Pakistan Stock Exchange extends its bullish run as KSE-100 gains 957 points to 179,140, following Monday's gains and stronger trading activity.



Staff Reporter
KARACHI

The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) extended its bullish momentum on Tuesday, as strong buying activity lifted share prices and reflected growing investor confidence.
During early trading session, the benchmark KSE-100 Index gained 957.37 points to reach 179,140.32 points, reflecting an increase of 0.54 percent compared with the previous closing level of 178,182.95 points.
Trading remained positive as the index recorded an intraday high of 179,450.96 points, while its lowest level stood at 179,091.36 points.
A day earlier, PSX also witnessed a bullish trend on Monday, with the benchmark KSE-100 Index gaining 309.07 points, a positive change of 0.17 percent, to close at 178,182.95 points against 177,873.88 points recorded in the previous trading session.

ADB okays $500m for reforming Pakistan's federal pension system

■ The reforms will help contain rising pension-related fiscal pressures, strengthen pension system sustainability

Commerce Reporter
ISLAMABAD



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a $500 million results-based loan to help Pakistan reform its federal civil pension system,
The reforms will help contain rising pension-related fiscal pressures, strengthen pension system sustainability, and expand fiscal space for development and social spending, said ADB press release received in Islamabad on Tuesday.
It said, the country's federal pension spending has grown nearly fivefold since fiscal year 2016 and now exceeds PRs1 trillion a year. Its longstanding unfunded and noncontributory legacy defined benefit scheme is financed entirely through annual budget allocations, creating growing fiscal pressure as pension obligations increase over time.
"Pakistan has taken important steps to strengthen its federal pension system, and this program will help sustain and institutionalize those reforms," said ADB Country Director for Pakistan Emma Fan.Fan said, ADB's support would help achieve lasting results by strengthening institutions, improving transparency, and supporting a more sustainable pension system.The financing will support the first phase of the Government of Pakistan's Pension Reform Implementation Plan, and the transition to the defined contribution pension scheme, in which federal civil employees appointed from July 2024 are required to participate.

Pakistan, Turkmenistan discuss regional trade corridors, expansion of bilateral commerce

■ Pakistan and Turkmenistan discuss boosting bilateral trade, air and road connectivity, market access and business cooperation as both countries seek to reverse declining trade volumes.

News Desk
ISLAMABAD

Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan held a bilateral meeting with Turkmenistan's Minister of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations, Dortguly Suleymanov, in Islamabad, discussing measures to expand bilateral trade, strengthen regional connectivity, improve market access and promote greater business cooperation between the two countries.
The meeting took place ahead of the sixth session of the Pakistan–Turkmenistan Joint Intergovernmental Commission, scheduled for November 17 in Islamabad.
Welcoming the Turkmen Minister, Jam Kamal Khan emphasized the importance of translating strong bilateral relations into practical commercial partnerships, particularly in textiles, agriculture, food processing, manufacturing and logistics.
He appreciated the exchange of business delegations between the two countries and stressed the need for continuous engagement to identify new investment opportunities and develop commercially viable trade arrangements.



Highlighting changing global economic dynamics, the Federal Minister said rising international freight costs and disruptions to traditional trade routes had increased the importance of regional economic integration. He observed that Pakistan and Turkmenistan were well positioned to benefit from emerging trade opportunities linking South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East.
Jam Kamal Khan proposed exploring direct flights between Islamabad and Ashgabat, along with chartered cargo services for perishable agricultural and food products. He noted that the relatively short flying distance between the two capitals could provide a significant advantage for time-sensitive exports.
The Turkmen minister acknowledged the importance of improved air connectivity and indicated that the proposal could be discussed further with relevant aviation authorities during the upcoming Intergovernmental Commission meeting.
Discussing overland connectivity, Jam Kamal Khan highlighted the expanding operations of Pakistan's National Logistics Corporation (NLC) across Central Asian markets, including its growing fleet of vehicles suitable for regional transport requirements.
He emphasized the need to facilitate cross-border movement, explore alternative trade corridors and address logistical challenges affecting bilateral commerce.

CamScanner

Taliban supreme leader makes rare visit to Afghan capital



Web DESK

Kandahar

The Taliban's reclusive Supreme Leader Hibatullah Akhundzada made a rare visit to the Afghan capital Kabul on Tuesday, heralding the "extraordinary turn of events" that brought him to power.

Based in Kandahar, the southern heartland of the Taliban movement, Akhundzada has ruled Afghanistan by decree for more than five years."Now that Islam has triumphed, an Islamic system has been established, and the Islamic Emirate holds authority -- it is essential to help people understand the true nature of the Islamic Emirate" of Afghanistan, Akhundzada said at Kabul University, according to a government live audio feed.

Akhundzada inherited the Taliban leadership a decade ago and has made only a handful of visits to Kabul in recent years.

A massive security operation was launched ahead of his attendance at the Kabul conference, about the impact of his decrees, with heavily-manned checkpoints installed around the venue.

AFP journalists saw snipers atop buildings surrounding Kabul University, dozens of Humvees guarding the gates and intelligence agents stationed in the area.

Kabul University has been shut since Sunday, staff and students told AFP, while residents in the area said their homes were searched.The thousands of attendees included senior officials and scholars, the Ministry of Higher Education said Monday.



MANILA: Federal Minister for Law & Justice and Human Rights, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar, in a group photo with global delegates and ministers on the occasion of the 2nd Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children in Manila, Philippines.

Trump administration moves to block China from indirect access to American AI technology

■ The rule came on the same day President Donald Trump departed for a trip to Asia, where he expects to meet Chinese leader Xi Jinping for the third time this year amid a fragile truce on trade.

Web Desk

WASHINGTON

The Trump administration issued new rules to restrict remote access to advanced U.S. computing chips and servers, marking the latest step to limit China's abilities to use U.S. chips to train their best artificial intelligence models.

Last week, Nvidia co-founder Jensen Huang resigned as CEO following scrutiny of his ties to a Chinese executive who used to lead Singapore-based Megaspeed International, which is suspected of diverting advanced Nvidia chips to China in violation of U.S. export controls. The company provides computing power to Chinese companies using chips housed in Southeast Asian data



centers, including facilities in Malaysia.

"The rule is designed to ensure that existing restrictions on access to sensitive American technology cannot be circumvented through remote computing arrangements involving data centers in third countries," the Bureau of Industry and Security under the Commerce Department said in issuing the rule that took effect immediately.

The rule came on the same day President Donald Trump departed for a trip to Asia, where he expects to meet Chinese leader Xi Jinping for the third time this year amid a fragile truce on trade.

Under the new rule, overseas data centers that serve companies in countries including China, Russia, Iran and Cuba are required to identify their end users. There also will be additional licensing requirements for sales of chips for Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand or Brazil — countries that "present a higher-than-normal risk of diversion" to unauthorized destinations, the rule says.

In Beijing, China's foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun accused Washington of arbitrarily interfering with China's trade and technological cooperation with other countries and suppressing the development of China's high-tech industries.

"This is a typical example of economic coercion and long-arm jurisdiction, runs counter to the common understanding between the two sides," he told reporter, adding that it infringes upon the rights of Chinese companies and disrupts the stability of global supply chains.

He said China would take necessary measures to safeguard its interests.

The U.S. bans sales of the country's most advanced AI chips to China, seeking to maintain an edge in its rivalry with China for predominance in artificial

US military readiness and security shortcomings exposed

■ A US Army survivor has exposed serious security failures at a Kuwait base, where inadequate defences preceded a deadly Iranian drone attack.

Web Desk

Washington

Serious shortcomings in the US military's defence preparedness and security arrangements have come to light following revelations by a US Army officer who survived an Iranian drone attack in Kuwait.

Major Stephen Reamsbottom, who survived the attack, said the military base lacked adequate security measures despite prior warnings of a possible Iranian retaliatory strike.

Speaking on CBS's 60 Minutes, the major revealed that six US service members were killed in an Iranian drone attack on Camp Arifjan? No—the attack took place at Port Shuaiba military base



in Kuwait on March 1.

He said the base lacked sufficiently reinforced shelters to protect personnel from aerial attacks, effective counter-drone defence systems and adequate medical facilities.

According to the major, US intelligence had already identified the base as a potential Iranian target. However, despite assurances that counter-drone defence systems would be provided, the promised equipment was never deployed.

US intelligence warns of Iranian dirty bomb or chemical attack plot targeting Trump officials: CNN

● Plans prompt heightened security concerns and contingency planning within US government, report says

Web Desk

WASHINGTON

US intelligence agencies have detected Iranian planning for potential attacks against senior Trump administration officials in Washington, DC, involving a radioactive dirty bomb or chemical weapons, CNN reported on Monday, citing seven US officials familiar with the intelligence.

The reported plans have prompted heightened security concerns and contingency planning within the US government, although officials remain divided over whether Iran has the capability or intention to carry out an attack.

According to CNN, sources



familiar with the intelligence characterised the Iranian activity as an effort to develop potential attack options rather than evidence of an imminent operation. However, two sources said the planning identified specific locations and potential targets in the US capital.

White House spokesperson Lauren Bis said the administration was monitoring potential threats but emphasised that there was no confirmed immediate danger.

The US is "monitoring any and all potential threats, but at this time, there are no credible threats to the homeland," Bis said, according to the report.

The intelligence has reportedly triggered several meetings among US officials over the past week to discuss possible responses and preventive measures.One source familiar with the intelligence described the contingency planning as "prudent," while another said officials were still debating whether Iran had personnel capable of executing such an operation.

The security concerns have also affected protection arrangements for senior was administration officials.

According to CNN, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent was moved into military housing last week following threats linked to Iran. Iran's diplomatic mission to the UN in New York rejected allegations that Tehran was considering using chemical weapons.

In a statement, the Iranian mission said the country "considers the use of chemical weapons under any circumstances to be wholly illegitimate and categorically rejects and unequivocally refutes the false and fabricated allegations circulated in this regard."

The Pentagon referred questions to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, which declined to comment, CNN reported.

Two mass shootings claim 17 lives in South Africa

Web Desk

JOHANNESBURG

Seventeen people have been killed in two separate mass shootings in South Africa, police said the crime-weary country battles persistently high murder rates.

In one incident, nine bodies were found on Monday in an informal settlement outside the capital Pretoria, police said.

"All nine were found in a shack with gunshot wounds this morning," a spokeswoman said.

The dead were six men and three women.

Provincial police commissioner Tommy Mthombeni said the attack may be linked to a shooting last year at a nearby informal settlement in which 12 people



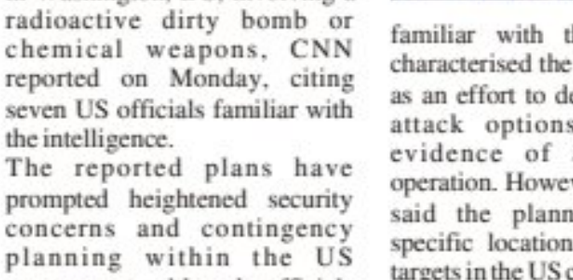
were killed and 13 wounded.

The second killing occurred in a semi-rural area outside the eastern city of Pietermaritzburg where police found a bullet-riddled vehicle after responding to reports of a shooting on Sunday.

"Inside the vehicle police found eight men who had multiple gunshot wounds and were certified dead at the scene," police said on Monday.

They were believed to be between 20 and 30 years old.

US naval presence in Middle East exceeds peak of Iran war: Israeli institute



NEWS DESK

NORTH ARABIAN

The current US naval presence in the Middle East region exceeds the level recorded during the peak of the US-Israeli war on Iran in February and March, an Israeli security institute said on Tuesday.

The Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) said in a statement that it compiled open-source data on the current number of US forces and naval vessels deployed in the Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean."The current US naval presence exceeds the size of the forces deployed during Operation Epic Fury, providing greater offensive capabilities and broader missile-interception capacity," the institute said.

Israel drops explosives packaged in boxes in Gaza

■ Residents report Israeli drones dropping boxes of explosives onto buildings before remote detonations

STAFF REPORTER

ABU DHABI

Israeli forces are using quadcopter drones to drop boxes packed with explosives onto or beside Palestinian houses in Gaza, residents and witnesses say.

The explosives are detonated remotely, destroying buildings and damaging properties. Residents have observed the method for about a week in areas close to Israeli military positions.

The explosions have spread fear among families nearby, prompting some to flee. Witnesses have reported boxes containing several kilograms of explosives being dropped onto houses and other buildings.

Video footage showed Israeli drones dropping boxes of explosives onto rooftops. The operations have been reported east of Gaza City's Zeitoun and Tuffah neighbourhoods, as well as in eastern Deir al-Balah and Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza.

Local sources said dozens of Palestinians fled the Zeitoun



neighbourhood on Friday, fearing their homes would be targeted next.

The demolitions continued into Monday, when sources reported drones dropping explosive boxes near the Wadi Gaza bridge on Salah al-Din Street and north of the Bureij and Nuseirat refugee camps. They reported at least seven such operations, causing powerful explosions and extensive destruction.

On Nov. 10, Israeli forces used the same method to demolish two houses that had already been evacuated east of Maghazi refugee camp, local sources told Anadolu.

Four similar demolitions were reported around Dar al-Salam Hospital in northeastern Khan Younis, in southern Gaza.

The tactic adds to the methods Israeli forces have used to destroy Palestinian buildings since the war began, including heavy aerial bombardment, artillery fire, explosives planted inside or around buildings, and military bulldozers.

Israeli forces have also used old military vehicles packed with explosives, sending them between buildings near army-held areas. The resulting blasts have destroyed entire residential blocks.

Demolitions have continued in Israeli-controlled areas along the "Yellow Line" despite the ceasefire that took effect on Oct. 10, 2025.

Israeli violations of the agreement have killed 1,650 Palestinians and wounded 5,975 others as of Monday, according to Gaza's Health Ministry.

CamScanner

Is Bano alive Sahar Hashmi's new post sparks major 'Zanjeerain' twist

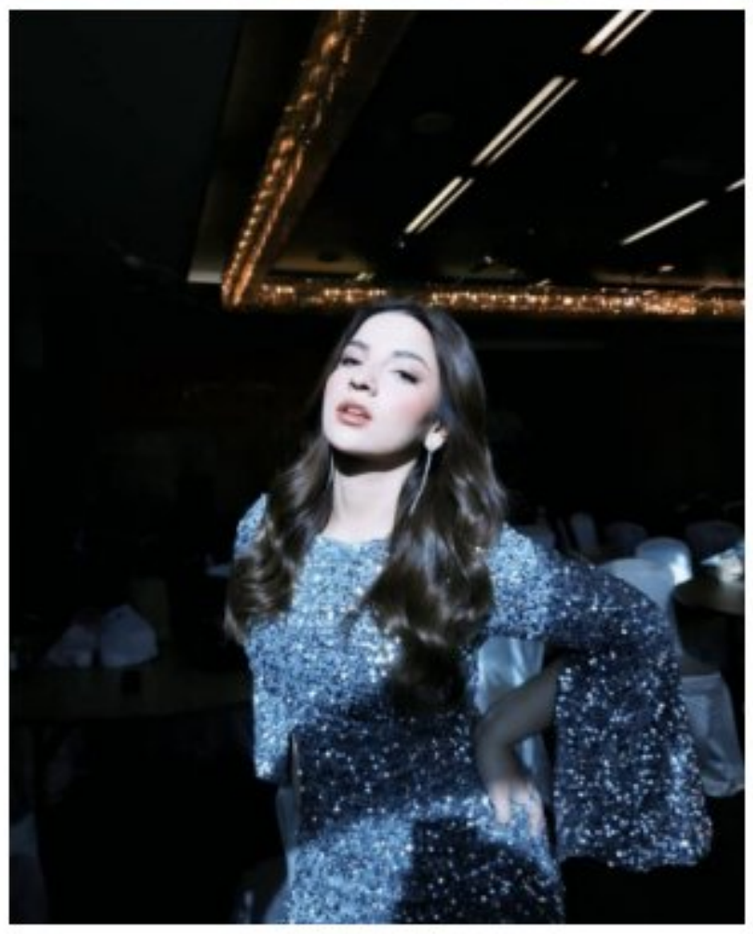
■ The caption quickly caught fans' attention, with many interpreting it as a possible hint that Bano's story may not be over yet.

WEB DESK
ISLAMABAD

Pakistani actress Sahar Hashmi has sparked fresh speculation among fans after sharing a BTS from the drama serial Zanjeerain, leaving viewers wondering whether her character, Bano, could still be alive.
Taking to Instagram, Sahar shared a collection of BTS moments from the set of Zanjeerain with the caption, "milty hein phir aglay hafte?" (See you again next week?). The caption quickly caught fans' attention, with many interpreting it as a possible hint that



Bano's story may not be over yet.
Along with the carousel, Sahar shared several captions inspired by Bano and the drama's emotional journey, including, "near the river under the starry sky full of hope with Bano's essence of love, loyalty & courage," and "someone please go tell her 'sab theek hogia'."
She also referred to Bano's signature white outfit with the phrase "bano wala safaid," while another caption, "a girl's girl," reflected the strength and compassion of her character.
The carousel featured candid moments from the set, showing Sahar with fellow cast members during filming while also capturing light-hearted BTS memories that contrasted with the emotional storyline currently unfolding on screen. The post comes after recent episodes left viewers shocked when Bano was brutally attacked and was believed to have died, leaving fans emotional and uncertain about the character's fate.
Soon after Sahar's post appeared online, social media users began sharing theories in the comments section.



Sanam Saeed's 'Malmal Ka Kurta Era' wins hearts online

■ Pakistani actress and model Sanam Saeed has caught fans' attention after sharing a fresh series of Instagram pics and clips showcasing a timeless traditional look.

SHOWBIZ DESK
ISLAMABAD

Pakistani actress and model Sanam Saeed has caught fans' attention after sharing a fresh series of Instagram pics and clips showcasing a timeless traditional look.
Taking to Instagram, Sanam shared a carousel of photos and videos with the caption, "In my Malmal ka kurta era cause there's nothing else you can wear in this heat! @shopataplomb."
Through the caption, the actress highlighted how the ongoing summer heat has made lightweight malmal kurtas her outfit of choice. She also tagged the brand behind her look, giving credit to the breezy white ensemble.
The carousel featured Sanam dressed in a simple all-white traditional outfit with delicate embroidery. In one photo, she posed beside a vintage wooden door, while another captured her relaxing on a wooden bench in a peaceful



outdoor setting.
The following slides showed her posing amid lush greenery, with the delicate embroidery of her outfit standing out against the calm outdoor setting. She completed the look with a classic silver watch, keeping her accessories minimal and understated.
The post also included a short video in which Sanam casually adjusted her hair and cooled herself with a handheld fan, perfectly reflecting the summer theme mentioned in her caption. Fans and fellow celebrities quickly reacted to the post. Actress and model Saheefa Jabbar Khattak commented, "Uff," while director Asim Raza responded with heart emojis. Many fans also praised her graceful appearance, with comments including "stunning," "gorgeous," "perfect," "so chic and pretty," and "ethereal."
Sanam Saeed is widely known for portraying Kashaf Murtaza in the acclaimed drama Zindagi Gulzar Hai. The performance earned her widespread recognition and several accolades, including a Lux Style Award, and remains one of the most memorable roles of her career.

Dananeer Mobeen charms fans with her 'Elevator Vibe Check'

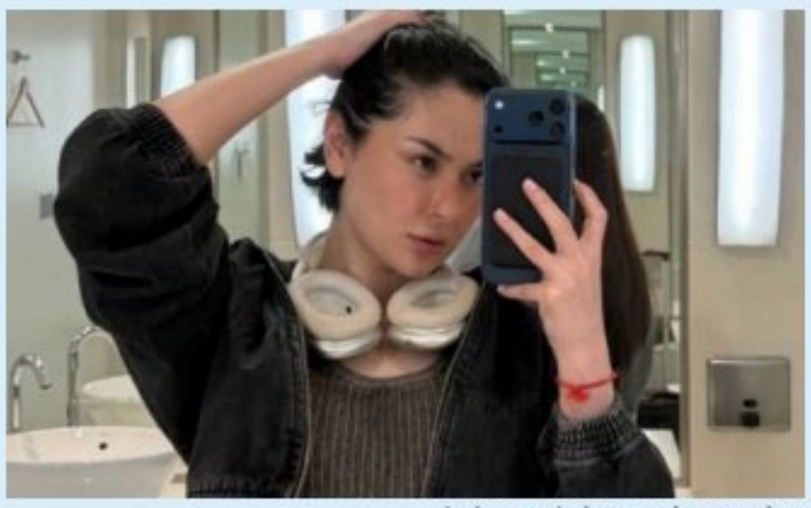
■ Pakistani actress Dananeer Mobeen has once again caught fans' attention after sharing a fun new Instagram carousel featuring stylish photos and cheerful videos from her day.

WEB DESK
KARACHI

Pakistani actress Dananeer Mobeen has once again caught fans' attention after sharing a fun new Instagram carousel featuring stylish photos and cheerful videos from her day.
Taking to Instagram, the actress posted a carousel of photos and videos with the caption: "sun tried me, sun tried me again, i didn't know I would enjoy dancing this much, side part to middle part real quick, elevator vibe check."
Through the caption, Dananeer playfully summed up the different moments of her day.
She joked about the bright sun testing her twice before revealing that she unexpectedly enjoyed dancing.
She also humorously mentioned switching from a side-part hairstyle to a middle part before ending the post with an "elevator vibe check," giving followers a glimpse of her cheerful mood.
The carousel featured Dananeer posing in a shimmering silver sequin dress with long flared sleeves, creating a glamorous look with a subtle retro touch.
She paired the outfit with soft wavy hair, fresh peach-toned makeup and delicate silver jewellery, allowing the sparkling dress to remain the highlight of her look.

Hania Aamir's random Instagram drop has everyone hooked

■ Pakistani actress Hania Aamir has once again caught fans' attention after sharing a new Instagram photo dump featuring candid moments from her everyday life.



SHOWBIZ DESK
ISLAMABAD

Pakistani actress Hania Aamir has once again caught fans' attention after sharing a new Instagram photo dump featuring candid moments from her everyday life.
Taking to Instagram, Hania posted a carousel of photos and videos, giving followers a glimpse into different moments from her day. The collection included mirror selfies, casual snapshots, a passport photo, scenic views from an airplane window and two short video clips.She accompanied the post with a unique caption that read: "itinerary lockdown, packed emotionally, trying again, scenic, we've met before, found something pretty, one hiccup at a time, almost didn't take a selfie, check in i stayed a little longer, bonus points for hydration, aerodynamics."
Instead of telling a single story, the caption featured a series of short, abstract phrases that reflected different moods and moments, perfectly matching the random and personal feel of the carousel.

I thought I'd go to hell', Zoya Nasir opens up about childhood bullying

WEB DESK
KARACHI

Pakistani actress Zoya Nasir has candidly opened up about the emotional struggles she faced as a child, revealing that she was bullied in school because her father, renowned screenwriter Nasir Adeeb, worked in the entertainment industry. She shared that the hurtful remarks left her frightened and eventually led her to find comfort through prayer. During her appearance on 'Fuchsia Magazine',
Zoya reflected on how people's judgment about her father's profession deeply affected her at a young age.
"I used to ask my father, 'Will these people go to hell? They're such nice people.' My father would reply, 'Beta, we don't know who will go to heaven or hell. Only Allah can decide that. No human being has the right to make that judgment.'"
She explained that as a child, she often heard people claim that those associated with the film industry were destined for hell, something that had a lasting emotional impact on her.
"People used to say that those in the film industry were going to hell, and as a little girl, that affected me deeply. I was bullied in school because of my background. It really mattered to me, and it really scared me. I genuinely thought Allah would throw me into hell because my father made movies."

uggun Kazim slams tourists for ruining Nathia Gali

■ Actor urges tourists to take responsibility for their own waste to preserve Pakistan's gifted natural beauty

WEB DESK
ISLAMABAD

Pakistani-Canadian actor and television presenter Juggun Kazim, who is currently on a vacation in Nathia Gali with her family, expressed deep sorrow over the state of the hiking trails.
the television host took to her official Instagram handle to share her frustration.
In the shared video, she said: "What nonsense is this? People just leave their trash behind. I have come to Nathia Gali, and whichever place I visit, it's the same condition. If there were plastic bags, whoever threw them, why couldn't they just carry those plastic bags and throw them properly in a garbage can?"
She went on to add: "Sorry, I don't usually get aggressive, but this is ridiculous. Then we complain that climate change is happening and things have gone bad… So



all of this is happening because of this, right? Because we do not take care of our world — this beautiful universe that Almighty Allah has blessed us with. Then when things go wrong, it is our own fault."
Alongside the clip, she wrote a caption reading: "We travel to beautiful places to escape the mess. Let's not leave our mess behind for someone else to clean up. Take your memories. Take your photographs. Take your garbage too."
On the personal front, Juggun tied the knot with lawyer Faisal Naqvi in June 2013, and the pair share two children: a son, Hassan, and a daughter, Syeda Noor Bano Naqvi.
Juggun also has a son, Hamza, from her previous marriage to Adnan Ghafoor.



My Pookie! Aiman Khan's adorable praise for Muneeb Butt grabs attention

CamScanner

Second Test: Pakistan's massive lead leaves Sri Lanka in trouble

● Sri Lanka trailed by 153 runs with seven wickets

SPORTS REPORTER

Rawalpindi



Pakistan took control of the second and final Test after leaving the visitors trailing by 153 runs, as Sri Lanka finished the day at 74-3 in 22 overs at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Wednesday.

The three-wicket haul left Sri Lanka under mounting pressure as they struggled to recover from Pakistan's commanding first-innings lead. The visitors will resume their innings on day three with Pasindu Sooriyabandara (18) and Dhananjaya de Silva (24) at the crease.

Saqib Khan provided Pakistan with an early breakthrough, claiming his first wicket of the innings by dismissing Lahiru Udara for seven off 13 deliveries, including one boundary.

Dinesh Chandimal endured another disappointing outing before falling to Razaullah, while Aamer Jamal dismissed Kamindu Mendis for 16 off 25 balls, including three boundaries, leaving Sri Lanka reeling at 39-3 in 14.2 overs.

Dhananjaya de Silva and Pasindu Sooriyabandara then joined forces to steady the innings, forging a valuable partnership that helped Sri Lanka move past the 50-run mark and avoid further setbacks before stumps.

Pakistan's decision to bowl first paid dividends as Sri Lanka were dismissed for a below-par total, courtesy of an impressive bowling display by the pace attack, with Mohammad Abbas, Aamer Jamal and Razaullah leading the charge.

Captain Kusal Mendis led the visitors' s failed to reach double figures.

batting effort with 32 off 50 deliveries, featuring five boundaries, while Sonal Dinusha contributed 21 off 40 balls. The remaining batters failed to reach double figures.

Pacers Mohammad Abbas, Aamer Jamal and Razaullah claimed three wickets each, while Saqib Khan chipped in with one.

In reply, Pakistan were bowled out for 325 in 87.5 overs in reply to Sri Lanka's first-innings total of 98, securing a substantial 227-run lead, thanks to Ghazi Ghori's maiden Test half-century and Razaullah's late blitz.

half-century and Razaullah's late blitz.

Lahiru Kumara led Sri Lanka's bowling attack with figures of 5/95 in 21.5 overs. Asitha Fernando picked up three wickets followed by one each for Milan Rathnayaka and Prabath Jayasuriya.

Pakistan made a steady start, with openers Azan Awais and Tayyab Arif sharing an 80-run partnership. Tayyab scored 46 off 82 deliveries, including six boundaries, before Fernando broke the stand. Azan then combined with Mohammad Taha to take Pakistan past Sri Lanka's total, but Prabath Jayasuriya dismissed Taha for eight, while Babar Azam fell to Kumara for eight.

Cricket Australia attempts Sandpapergate circuit breaker through player forum

● Cricket Australia has launched an independent forum to hear players' accounts of the 2018 ball-tampering scandal, aiming to address lingering disputes without imposing new sanctions.

Sports Desk

SYDNEY



Cricket Australia made an attempt on Wednesday to end the damaging debate about what happened in the 2018 ball-tampering scandal by opening an independent forum to allow all players to give their accounts of the incident.

Chief executive Todd Greenberg said it was not a reopening of the governing body's 2018 probe into the incident and the results would not necessarily be made public. No sanctions would follow, he added.

Usman Khawaja's recently released autobiography contradicted the conclusion of the initial CA investigation that only David Warner, Steve Smith and Cameron Bancroft were aware of the plot to use sandpaper to alter the condition of the ball in a test against South Africa.

Despite Khawaja's contention, backed up by Warner, that the ?whole team was at least aware of the attempt to cheat, test captain Pat Cummins and his fellow fast bowler ?Mitchell Starc maintain they knew nothing of the plot.

"For almost a decade, the fallout from these events has remained part of conversation around Australian cricket ... We believe ?it is time for a circuit breaker," interim chairman David Boon told reporters in Hobart ahead of Australia's one-day international against England on Wednesday.

Cricket Australia banned Smith ?and Warner, the then Australia captain and vice-captain, from elite cricket for a year for bringing the game into disrepute over the incident at Newlands.

Opening batter Bancroft, who brought a piece of sandpaper onto the field to scuff up the ball, received a nine-month suspension.

Greenberg said there would be no new investigation into the events and the forum was merely an opportunity for any player in the squad or staff member to give their version of events.

"We've got almost everyone's version of events, and they differ markedly," he said.

"This is the greatest challenge ?with this project is people's version of events at the time differ substantially, and we have to give enormous respect for each individual.

"Looking for the perfect truth doesn't exist, and ?we're not ?chasing that," he added. "We're giving people the opportunity to have their version of events played into a safe place."

'TOXIC CULTURE'

Greenberg, who took over at CA in 2025, said the governing body also had to take some responsibility for the environment that existed in the team in 2018.

"You've heard a number of times through different players that the culture at that time was quite toxic," he added.

"It was a difficult dressing room. It was a win-at-all-costs mentality, and that doesn't just start ?with a group of players. It comes ?from an entire organisation."

The reaction ?of two of the main protagonists to the announcement was not entirely positive, with both Warner and Khawaja expressing reservations about whose version of events would emerge.

"I appreciate where their heart is, and I'll support the board in this ... I just wanted to take accountability, and I've done it for the three guys who I think were unfairly treated," Khawaja ?told Fox Sports TV.

"(But) ?I could go in there and say something, but then the board can decide that they're not going to release that. And I just feel like then we just go in a circle again."

Warner, sat with Khawaja on the commentary panel for the ODI, echoed his former opening partner's comments.

Pakistani tigers roar in Malaysia, bring home four medals from Taekwondo

SPORTS DESK

TURIN

World No. 1 Alexander Zverev was imperious on serve as he blasted past third-seed Ben Shelton 6-2, 7-6 (7/4) to book a place in the last four of the ATP Finals in Turin.

With one round of matches to play in the John McEnroe Group, Zverev's straight-sets win eliminated young Spaniard Rafael Jodar who lost earlier to Frenchman Arthur Fils.

"If I focus on myself and play good tennis the results will take care of themselves," said Zverev after the victory.

In a battle of big servers, Zverev broke in the opening game of the match.

The German then held to love. Shelton staved off two break points in the third game, the American forcing his only two break points of the match in the next game but ultimately unable to take them. He immediately dropped serve again.

Zverev, also dominating baseline rallies, clinched the set in the eighth game.

Shelton's serve steadied in the second set, although he was unable to touch the Zverev serve. Zverev did not drop a point on serve until he was 40-0 up in the 12th game with the tiebreak looming.

Zverev had won all six of his previous matches with Shelton, most recently in the US Open final, and taken all five tiebreak sets the pair had played.



India beat Pakistan 2-1 to win 10th SAFF Football Championship title

■ India beat Pakistan 2-1 in the SAFF Football Championship final, winning their 10th title after Sandeep scored a dramatic 88th-minute winner.



WEB DESK

DHAKA

India defeated Pakistan 2-1 in the SAFF Football Championship final to lift the title for a record 10th time, denying their neighbours a historic maiden triumph in the competition.

The closely contested final, held in Bangladesh's capital Dhaka, saw Pakistan take an early advantage before India staged a second-half comeback to secure the championship with a late winner.

Pakistan made a promising start and took the lead through Alamgir Ghazi in the closing moments of the first half. His goal put the Green Shirts in a strong position heading into the break, raising hopes of a historic victory.

However, India responded after the interval, with Sohail Bhat finding the net to bring his side level and shift the momentum of the contest.

Pakistan's challenge became more difficult early in the second half when Junaid Shah was shown a red card for kicking an Indian player.

The dismissal forced Pakistan to continue with 10 players for the remainder of the match, putting additional pressure on their defence as India pushed for a winner.

Despite being a player down, Pakistan continued to compete, but India's attacking pressure eventually paid off.

India's Sandeep delivered the decisive moment in the 88th minute, scoring the winning goal to give his team a 2-1 victory in the final.

The result secured India's 10th overall SAFF Football Championship title and marked their third consecutive triumph in the tournament.

For Pakistan, reaching the final was itself a significant milestone, as the national side had made it to the championship's showpiece match for the first time.

However, they were unable to turn that historic achievement into a maiden title, with India's late strike settling the contest in Dhaka.



Dhoni says goodbye to IPL after 19 memorable years

Web Desk

India

Indian cricket legend MS Dhoni has ended his 19-year playing career in the Indian Premier League (IPL) and will take over as team mentor of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) for the 2027 season,

The franchise announced the major decision today, just three hours before the deadline for releasing and retaining players ended.

he next IPL player auction will be held in Goa on December 16.

Dhoni had long hoped to end his IPL career by playing his final match in front of Chennai's passionate fans at the team's home ground, Chepauk. However, that wish will now remain unfulfilled.

CSK owner N Srinivasan paid tribute to the former captain, saying that the franchise was impossible to imagine without Dhoni.

He said Dhoni and Chennai Super Kings had shared nearly two decades of success, challenges and difficult moments, with mutual trust being the foundation of their strong relationship.

Srinivasan added that insisting on including Dhoni in the CSK team in 2008 was one of his best decisions.

He said Dhoni would always remain an important part of the franchise, not only because of his achievements but also because of his personality and character. "Chennai Super Kings will always be his home," he said.

The 45-year-old Dhoni will work with the franchise's new coaching staff for the 2027 season.



Pakistan and Sri Lanka fined for slow over-rates in Rawalpindi Test

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan and Sri Lanka have been fined for maintaining slow over-rates during the first match of their two-Test series in Rawalpindi.

According to the International Cricket Council (ICC), Pakistan were fined 25% of their match fees, while Sri Lanka received a 50% fine. One WorldTest Championship point was also deducted from each team. The ICC said Pakistan were found to be five overs short of the required rate, while Sri Lanka fell 15 overs behind the scheduled over-rate.

Emirates ICC International Panel of Match Referees member Dean Cosker imposed the sanctions on both teams. Under the ICC Code of Conduct, players are fined 5% of their match fees for every over their team falls short of the required rate, subject to a maximum penalty of 50%.

Pakistan captain Babar Azam and Sri Lanka captain Kusal Mendis admitted the offences and accepted the penalties, eliminating the need for formal hearings.



Pakistan extend lead to 123 runs against Sri Lanka in second Rawalpindi

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan strengthened their position in the second Test against Sri Lanka, reaching 221 for seven in 69 overs and extending their lead to 123 runs at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.

At the crease, Muhammad Ghazi Ghori was batting on eight off 35 deliveries, while Aamer Jamal remained unbeaten on one off two balls.

Pakistan had won the toss and elected to field first in the match. Sri Lanka were bowled out for 98 in 35.3 overs in their first innings after Pakistan's bowlers delivered an impressive performance.

Pakistan continued to build their advantage in the second innings, with their lead reaching 123 runs as the match progressed.

CamScanner



Severe smog engulfs Lahore, Multan as AQI crosses 500 in several areas

STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE

Lahore and several other cities across Punjab have come under the grip of severe air pollution, with air quality reaching hazardous levels in multiple areas as the provincial capital recorded an average smog level of 366.The Air Quality Index (AQI) in different parts of Lahore climbed to alarming levels, with Allama Iqbal Town recording 593, Samanabad 554 and Model Town 503.

According to the Meteorological Department, Lahore's minimum temperature is expected to remain at 12 degrees Celsius, while the maximum temperature is likely to reach 27 degrees Celsius today. Humidity has been recorded at 68 per cent, while wind speed stands at three kilometres per hour. No rainfall is expected in the provincial capital today.

Meanwhile, air pollution also remained severe in other Punjab cities. Multan recorded an AQI of 533, followed by Kasur at 481, Gujranwala at 429, Khanewal at 412 and Faisalabad at 318.

Kuwait reports drone attacks as Iran, US trade attacks on Qeshm and Bahrain

● The US earlier carried out several attacks on Iran's southern island of Qeshm, in the Strait of Hormuz, hours after Iran said it launched a drone attack on a US radar system in Bahrain.

WEB DESK

Kuwait



Kuwait's army has said the Gulf country is under attack by drones while the United States and Iran traded blows, marking escalating tensions in the region as a peace deal remains elusive.

The military said in a statement on X that "any explosion sounds heard are the result of air defence systems intercepting hostile attacks".

The US earlier carried out several attacks on Iran's southern island of Qeshm, in the Strait of Hormuz, hours after Iran said it launched a drone attack on a US radar system in Bahrain.

"The American attack on locations on Qeshm island caused no damage to residential, commercial, or infrastructural areas," Ahmad Nafisi, deputy governor of Iran's southern Hormozgan province, said.

He said the situation was under control and relief agencies were on full alert.

IRNA reported five to six explosions on the island on Tuesday evening.

A US official told Al Jazeera the strike hit a missile launch site on Qeshm, in response to Iran's earlier attack on a US base in Bahrain.

US Central Command said Iranian drones aimed at a US radar system at an air base in Bahrain "were intercepted without any damage to US equipment or personnel".

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said it carried out a "precision operation" with drones on the US-operated radar at the Sheikh Isa air base, in response to "repeated violations of Iranian airspace by US military drones".

Bahrain, which hosts the US Navy's Fifth Fleet, said its air defences intercepted the attack, and blasts were heard over the capital, Manama, according to the AFP news agency.

It was the third Iranian drone attack on Bahrain in five days after a lull of several weeks. Friday's strike was the first Iranian attack on a Gulf country since early September, AFP reported.

Reuters said it came after a Bahraini court sentenced 64 people, mostly Shia clerics, to life in prison for allegedly colluding with Iran.

Kuwait's armed forces said on Tuesday night that its air defences were responding to "hostile drone attacks" and urged the public to follow safety instructions.

It did not say where the drones came from or whether there were casualties or damage.

Tankers hit in Hormuz

Iran's armed forces said three oil tankers struck naval mines while trying to cross the strait on Tuesday. The US military says it cleared the main routes of mines.

Since the war began on February 28, Iran has tried to restrict traffic through the strait, which normally carries about a fifth of the world's oil, insisting that ships use only routes it has authorised. The US has responded with a naval blockade of Iranian ports and has escorted tankers.

Another tanker, the Panamanian-flagged Tara Gas, was struck on Monday about seven nautical miles north of Khasab, in Oman, causing a fire in its engine room, according to the security firm Vanguard.

Malik Ahmad Khan questions PPP's opposition to Sindh's division

● Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan calls for continued debate on new provinces, questioning PPP's stance on Sindh's division and its support for Punjab's division.

SPECIAL REPORTER

LAHORE



Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan has called for continued debate on the creation of new provinces, questioning the Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) position on the division of Sindh in light of its past support for a resolution concerning the division of Punjab.

Addressing a press conference in Lahore, Malik Ahmad Khan questioned the basis for warnings of bloodshed over the proposed division of Sindh and asked how discussing the creation of new provinces could be considered unconstitutional.

He said discussions on establishing new provinces should continue, adding that the Constitution provided a mechanism for holding a referendum. He also praised President Asif Ali Zardari, saying his strength lay in listening to different viewpoints and resolving issues through dialogue and negotiations.

The Punjab Assembly speaker pointed out that the PPP had voted in favour of a resolution concerning the division of Punjab.

He questioned why the party would oppose the division of Sindh after supporting a similar proposal regarding Punjab.

He stressed that dialogue on the creation of new provinces should continue and said political differences could be resolved through negotiations.

Commenting on PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's recent remarks about Sindhi nationalism, Malik Ahmad Khan said the subject also deserved discussion. He added that the concept of unity and its historical background should be debated as well. He questioned the apparent difference between the PPP's parliamentary position on the division of Punjab and its current stance on the division of Sindh.

Referring to Bilawal Bhutto's remarks about bloodshed, the speaker asked what justification there could be for violence over the proposed division of Sindh. He also questioned how setting homes on fire and resorting to violence could be considered legitimate political rights.

Malik Ahmad Khan said questions had emerged over the apparent contradiction between Bilawal Bhutto's parliamentary position and his recent statements.

The Punjab Assembly speaker also criticised certain judicial decisions, saying they had weakened the democratic system.



Khawaja Asif hits back at Bilawal Bhutto over remarks on new provinces, system reset

■ Khawaja Asif hit back at Bilawal Bhutto, saying any system reset requires public support, while questioning PPP's governance in Sindh and calling for greater public participation.

SPECIAL REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has responded to Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari over his opposition to the creation of new provinces, questioning his criticism of the existing political system.

In a statement shared on social media platform X, Khawaja Asif said no system could be reset without the backing of the people.

"Mr Bilawal, you spoke about a system reset, but no system can be reset unless it has public support," the defence minister said.

He added that if Bilawal was referring to a possible system collapse, political leaders also needed to examine their own responsibilities as stakeholders in the existing system.

Asif maintained that accountability of politicians was neither a new phenomenon nor was any politician exempt from scrutiny.

Commenting on Bilawal's recent press conference, the defence minister said it was strongly critical of the incumbent government and the existing system. However, he argued that politicians should not describe the process of seeking public opinion as a backdoor approach.

"Our political foundation rests on public opinion," Asif said, adding that there should be no restriction on parliamentary debate or seeking the people's mandate through a referendum.

Also Read: Bilawal says system was 'made to collapse', calls for political reset

He said the issue of a "system reset" would certainly be discussed in parliament, but the public should not be deprived of its fundamental right to express its opinion.

"Combining parliamentary debate with the people's opinion would, in my view, represent the highest form of legitimacy," he added.

Khawaja Asif questions PPP's governance in Sindh

The defence minister also questioned Bilawal's criticism by referring to the PPP's long-standing governance in Sindh.

"Mr Bilawal, you have been governing Sindh for 18 years. Has Sindh become a paradise Does the world look at Karachi's condition with admiration" Asif asked in his statement.

IHC orders medical examination, improved jail facilities for Bushra Bibi

■ The Islamabad High Court directs authorities to provide Bushra Bibi with a special doctor and ensure proper sanitation in her cell following complaints about jail conditions.

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD



The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has issued directions to the relevant authorities to address complaints raised by Bushra Bibi, wife of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan, regarding difficulties she allegedly faced in jail, including concerns about her health and living conditions.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Sarfraz Dogar and Justice Muhammad Asif heard appeals filed by Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi against their convictions in the £190 million case.

Barrister Salman Safdar and Sardar Latif Khosa appeared on behalf of Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi, while NAB special prosecutors Javed Arshad and Rafi Maqsood, along with Islamabad Advocate General Naveed Hayat Malik, were also present in court.

At the beginning of the hearing, the court directed all relevant parties to maintain silence. Subsequently, the defence lawyers submitted a fresh miscellaneous application concerning Bushra Bibi's health and alleged incidents inside the jail.

The defence counsel informed the court that Bushra Bibi was facing a serious eyesight problem and that the court had also been apprised of the need for surgery, warning that her existing medical condition could further affect her vision.

During the proceedings, the lawyer also claimed that seven small-sized snakes had been found in the room of Bushra Bibi's cell.

According to the counsel, jail staff killed the snakes and subsequently covered the area with cement.Chief Justice Sarfraz Dogar said appropriate measures would be taken to address all concerns regarding Bushra Bibi's health and that medical facilities would be provided to her in accordance with jail rules.

Say clearly govt does not Need PPP, Sharjeel Memon challenges Atta Tarar



WEB DESK

KARACHI

Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon has urged Federal Information Minister Attaullah Tarar to speak openly about the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), saying he should not use indirect remarks or personal criticism.

In a statement issued in Karachi, Sharjeel Memon said that if the federal government believed it did not need the PPP, it should express that position clearly and courageously.

He clarified that PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari had not criticised any political party or institution during his recent press conference. Instead, Bilawal had called on all political forces to sit together, resolve outstanding issues and work towards national unity.

Memon further stated that Bilawal's objective was not to hold anyone responsible but to encourage political parties to find collective solutions to the country's challenges. He added that the PPP could not be held responsible for the federal government's failures.



Muzaffarabad: President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Muhammad Najeeb Khan, welcomes Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif upon her arrival in Muzaffarabad.

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