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Washington: Democrats have secured majorities in both chambers of the US Congress in the midterm election results, while Republican candidates suffered defeats in several constituencies.

CM Bugti chairs meeting to review Balochistan's security situation

■ CM directed the provision of necessary funds and resources to complete Safe City projects in Quetta and other major cities of the province

STAFF REPORTER
QUETTA

Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti chaired the 29th meeting of the Hardening of the State Committee on Wednesday to review the province's overall security situation, development projects and measures against illegal activities.

The meeting was attended by representatives of federal and provincial institutions, relevant government departments and



security forces.

Participants discussed measures to curb smuggling, drug trafficking, poppy cultivation and other unlawful activities, stressing the need to intensify operations against such practices across the province.

The meeting also reviewed progress on the conversion of B-Areas into A-Areas. Participants expressed satisfaction over the ongoing process and reaffirmed their commitment to extending it effectively across all divisions.

The chief minister also directed the provision of necessary funds and resources to complete Safe City projects in Quetta and other major cities of the province.

The participants reiterated their resolve to continue coordinated efforts to maintain law and order, establish lasting peace, uphold the rule of law and strengthen the writ of the state across Balochistan.

Cabinet ratifies Pakistan-Kuwait defence pact, approves new banknote designs

■ The federal cabinet ratified a defence agreement with Kuwait, approved new currency designs and a Rs10 coin, and transferred emergency powers in KP.

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

The federal cabinet on Wednesday ratified a defence cooperation agreement between Pakistan and Kuwait, according to a handout issued by the Prime Minister's Office.

The agreement, aimed at promoting defence cooperation between the two countries, was concluded on June 11, 2023. The Kuwaiti government ratified it on July 19, the handout said.

The cabinet also approved transferring powers delegated to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister to the provincial governor. The Centre declared an



emergency and imposed governor's rule in the province on October 11.

The powers relate to managing day-to-day affairs during the emergency and facilitating administrative matters and governance. The KP governor will submit a monthly report to the federal government on their exercise, the statement said.

The cabinet welcomed the decision and expressed hope that the KP Advisory Council, led by Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, would work for the province's welfare, prosperity, peace and security.

On the recommendation of the Finance Ministry, the cabinet approved designs for new currency notes. The PMO said artists and designers from across the country had submitted proposals, which were reviewed by a cabinet committee after consultations with stakeholders.

The new notes will feature enhanced security measures and modern materials intended to extend their lifespan. The cabinet also approved replacing the Rs10 banknote with a Rs10 coin.

Pakistan continuing efforts for peace in Middle East

Addressing the cabinet, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said global oil prices had surged due to regional instability and that Pakistan was continuing efforts to restore peace.



Govt reduces petrol price by Rs7.06 per litre, diesel by Rs3.71

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

The federal government has cut the price of petrol by Rs7.06 per litre and the rate of high-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs3.71 per litre, according to a notification issued on Tuesday.Following the reduction, petrol will be sold at Rs362.00 per litre, while the price of high-speed diesel has been decreased to Rs387.81 per litre.

According to a notification issued by the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA), the revised rates will remain effective until November 5.



IHC schedules 190 million pounds case appeals for November 10

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

The Islamabad High Court has scheduled appeals filed by former prime minister Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, in the £190 million case for hearing on November 10.

According to the court schedule, a division bench comprising Chief Justice Sardar Sarfraz Dogar and Justice Muhammad Asif will hear the appeals.

The development marks a new stage in the legal proceedings concerning the high-profile case against the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder and his wife.



NAB summons Asad Mahmood over alleged illegal hiring in Pakistan Post

■ NAB and FIA have summoned former communications minister Asad Mahmood over alleged illegal recruitments in Pakistan Post, with NAB ordering him to appear on November 10.

WEB DESK
LAHORE

Allegations of illegal recruitment in Pakistan Post Office have surfaced against Asad Mahmood, son of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman and former federal communications minister, with the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) issuing summons to him in connection with the investigation.

NAB Rawalpindi has directed Mahmood to appear before an investigation team at 11am on November 10, 2026. According to the NAB notice, an investigation is under way into alleged irregularities in Pakistan Post Office during 2022 and 2023, when he was the minister.

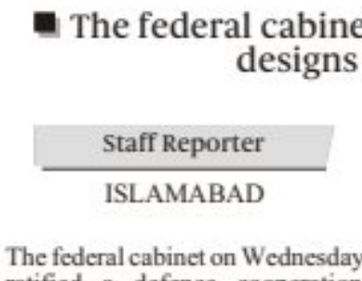
Documents show that the Establishment Division had approved recruitment against 3,938 posts in Pakistan Post Office, but 4,252 people were allegedly hired.

The NAB notice also mentions recruitment against 2,646 abolished posts and alleges violation of the instructions of the cabinet committee.

According to NAB, a large number of permanent appointments were made even though recruitment on a contract basis through a testing agency had been recommended, raising concerns about an additional financial burden on Pakistan Post Office. The investigation also covers allegations including the reported political affiliations of some selected candidates, fake and bogus documents, the hiring of overage candidates and violations of domicile quotas. The bureau has made it clear in the notice that failure to comply with the summons may invite legal action under Section 31 of the National Accountability Ordinance 1999.

FM Dar congratulates Oliver Blanco on appointment as Venezuela's foreign minister

■ Asim Iftikhar meets British, Japanese envoys, discusses bilateral ties, regional developments, cooperation



CITY REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Wednesday congratulated Oliver Blanco on his appointment as Venezuela's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and expressed his desire to further strengthen bilateral relations between Pakistan and Venezuela.

In a post on X, Dar extended "warm felicitations" to Blanco on his appointment as foreign minister of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

"I wish Foreign Minister Blanco every success in his new responsibilities and look forward to working closely with him to further strengthen the friendly ties and mutually beneficial cooperation between Pakistan and Venezuela," he wrote.

Responding to Dar's post on X, Blanco thanked him for his wishes and expressed his willingness to work together to strengthen bilateral relations.

Naqvi says One Constitution Avenue to be converted into five-star hotel in 'coming months'

■ Iqbal says CDA involved in irregularities, fraud, Tarar says matter will be referred to NAB for further investigation

STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi announced on Wednesday that One Constitution Avenue would be converted into a five-star hotel, assuring that all those entitled to compensation would be paid their dues.

In a press conference in Islamabad, Naqvi said that a joint investigation team (JIT) report on the project was presented before the federal cabinet and action had been taken on its recommendations, further adding that the government had now legally taken possession of the property.

Naqvi added: "We will convert this building to a five-star hotel in the coming months, which was its basic purpose in the first place. There is a severe shortage of hotels in Islamabad, and soon we will try to sign an agreement with a big chain for this purpose."

"As per JIT recommendations, we will try to make rightful payments to the occupants," Naqvi stated, adding that this was binding on the government after the report.

In an earlier press conference, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, speaking alongside Information Minister Attaullah Tarar and Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry, said that a JIT report submitted to the cabinet had found "irregularities and rigging" in the One Constitution Avenue project.



He said: "The prime minister had ordered an inquiry committee into the fraud that took place in the name of One Constitution Avenue, and today the JIT report was placed before the cabinet, which consisted of members from NAB, FIA, FBR, SECP, IB and ISI. They investigated the entire project and submitted a report that the cabinet considered today."

The planning minister underscored that the bidding process for the project was manipulated, further noting that the Capital Development Authority (CDA) was found not only to be "negligent" but also culpable and "involved" in the irregularities and fraud that took place.

The minister added: "The rules were relaxed to favour certain individuals, and the company that was given the lease was not the rightful claimant of the lease".

He further stated that the precondition of a bank guarantee was removed to favour the developer, adding that the paperwork submitted for the project was also found to be dubious.

CamScanner

NCCIA Additional Director Shoaib reviews recruitment, security arrangements at F-9 Park

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



Additional Director National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) Islamabad and Rawalpindi Shoaib Khan, along with Superintendent of Police (SP) City Islamabad Khurram Ashraf and Additional Director NPF, visited F-9 Park to review security arrangements and facilities for candidates appearing in the agency's ongoing physical recruitment tests. According to an NCCIA official on Wednesday that, the officers inspected the recruitment venue and reviewed arrangements made to ensure the …

ISLAMABAD, Nov 04 (APP):Additional Director National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) Islamabad and Rawalpindi Shoaib Khan, along with Superintendent of Police (SP) City Islamabad Khurram Ashraf and Additional Director NPF, visited F-9 Park to review security arrangements and facilities for candidates appearing in the agency's ongoing physical recruitment tests.

According to an NCCIA official on Wednesday that, the officers inspected the recruitment venue and reviewed arrangements made to ensure the convenience and safety of candidates.

NCCIA Additional Director Shoaib reviews recruitment, security arrangements at F-9 Park

He said the visiting officers received briefings from security personnel and relevant staff regarding security measures, crowd management and other arrangements at the testing venue.



Customer selecting and purchasing colorful teddy bears from the roadside vendor at University Road

Pakistan, UK voice concern over terrorist groups operating from Afghanistan

Pakistan and the United Kingdom expressed concern over terrorist groups operating from Afghanistan and agreed to strengthen counter-terrorism cooperation.

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



Pakistan and the United Kingdom on Wednesday expressed concern over the continuing threat posed by terrorist groups operating in and from Afghanistan, the Foreign Office said.

The two countries held their annual bilateral dialogue on counter-terrorism in Islamabad, reviewing bilateral and multilateral cooperation and reaffirming their commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms.

The Foreign Office said the sides discussed the evolving regional and global security environment and threats posed by terrorist entities, including transnational networks. They voiced concern over groups including the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) operating in and from Afghanistan, and stressed the urgent need for a stable and secure Afghanistan to ensure lasting regional peace and prosperity.

The UK delegation expressed condolences over the loss of innocent lives in terrorist attacks in Pakistan and reiterated its support for the country in its fight against terrorism.

The dialogue also focused on exchanging best practices and exploring new areas of cooperation to counter emerging threats, including misinformation and disinformation campaigns, the exploitation of social media platforms and emerging technologies.

The Foreign Office said both sides acknowledged Pakistan's contributions to regional stability and security and agreed to strengthen institutional ties and maintain regular engagement to advance shared counter-terrorism objectives.

The delegations agreed to hold the next round of talks in London in 2027, on mutually agreed dates.

AJK PM reviews law and order situation during Rawalakot visit

SPECIAL REPORTER
RAWALAKOT



Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Barrister Syed Iftikhar Gilani visited Rawalakot on Wednesday to review the law and order situation and administrative arrangements in the city.

During the visit, the prime minister was briefed at the Police Lines on the prevailing security situation and administrative matters.

He also visited the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) Rawalakot, where he met security personnel and civilians injured in attacks by violent groups and inquired about their health.

The AJK prime minister also inspected various security checkpoints in Rawalakot and met police personnel to review the security arrangements.

During the visit, he met the families of those who lost their lives and distributed financial assistance cheques among the bereaved families.

He also held meetings with local social and public figures to discuss the situation in Rawalakot.

FCC sets six principles for criminal background checks in government recruitment

The Federal Constitutional Court set six recruitment principles, ruling that an FIR alone cannot disqualify candidates from government jobs and restoring an acquitted applicant's candidature.

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



The Federal Constitutional Court has laid down six principles for examining candidates' character and criminal records before recruitment to government jobs, ruling that the mere registration of a First Information Report (FIR) cannot automatically disqualify an applicant from public employment.

Chief Justice Aminuddin Khan issued a written judgment in a case concerning the recruitment of a driver constable. The court declared null and void the notification disqualifying a candidate despite his acquittal, as well as the decision of the Lahore High Court's Multan Bench.

The court ruled that judicial acquittals must be recognised and candidates' backgrounds and eligibility assessed objectively. Any adverse character verification must be based on authentic and verifiable evidence rather than speculation.

Six Principles for Government Recruitment

In its written judgment, the Federal Constitutional Court established the following principles:

1. FIR registration: Merely registering an FIR against a candidate cannot serve as an automatic ground for disqualification from government employment, as an FIR does not constitute proof of a crime or establish a presumption of guilt.

2. Recognition of acquittal: Authorities must recognise judicial acquittals and cannot make adverse decisions based merely on suspicion after a candidate has been acquitted.

3. Police character certificates: Previous criminal cases resulting in acquittal cannot be portrayed negatively in a police character certificate.

4. Pending cases: Any reference to cases still under trial must be limited to their pending status.

5. Right to a hearing: Candidates generally cannot be excluded from recruitment without being given an opportunity to be heard and without reasonable grounds.

6. Merit and constitutional principles: Recruitment decisions must comply with legal standards, merit, fairness and the constitutional principles of equality and justice.

Court Restores Candidate's Candidature

The court ordered the restoration of petitioner Abdul Latif's candidature, who had secured second position on the merit list for the post of driver constable.

According to the judgment, the relevant authorities were directed to complete his medical examination and other legal formalities within 30 days and issue his appointment order.



FFC Wins CFA Society Pakistan's Best ESG Reporting Award 2025

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

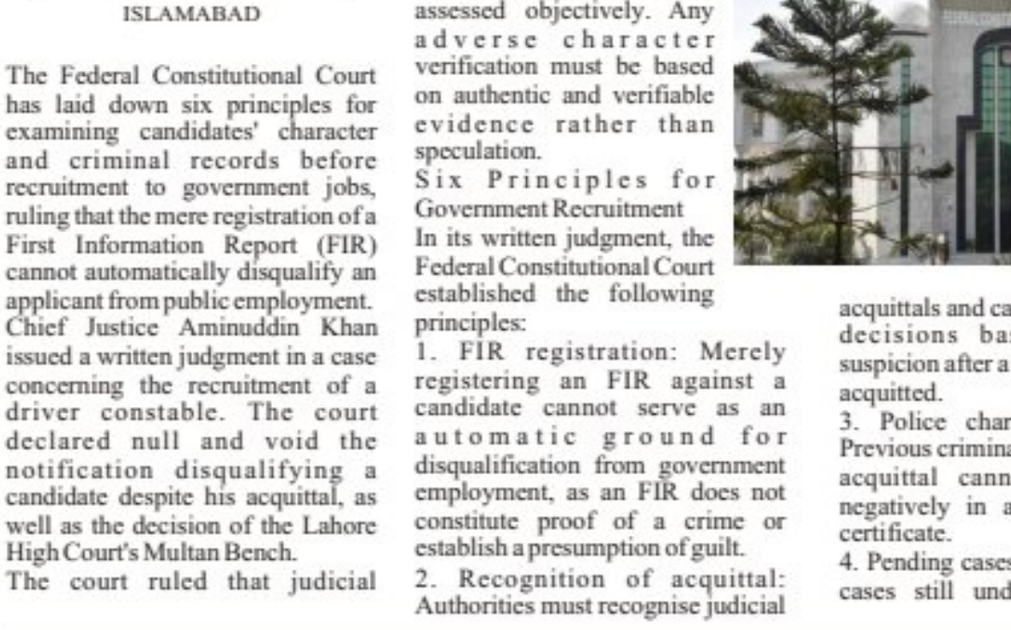
Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited (FFC) has once again demonstrated its commitment to sustainability and corporate reporting excellence by securing the Best ESG Reporting Award 2025 - Corporates, conferred by CFA Society Pakistan. The award was presented at a ceremony held on 02 November 2026 in Karachi. This recognition marks FFC's continued commitment towards integrating Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles in its business strategy and reporting framework. This achievement further reinforces FFC's resolve towards apt corporate governance and transparency in quest to enjoy confidence of all stakeholders without compromising on endeavors to attain best global sustainability standards.

اشتہار شوروغوغا لاوارث نعشیں

بمطابق پولیس رولز باب 23فقرہ 18

نامعلوم الاسم دہشتگرد مقدمہ فرد نمبر 131/2026 زیر دفعہ 7(1)(b)(c)(ff)(h)(i)-7(2)-11F(1)(2)(5)(6)-11G-11H-11I-11J-11K-11N/ATA, 3 Exp Act. پولیس تھانہ سی ٹی ڈی کوئٹہ

بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا تحریر ہے کہ مقدمہ فرد نمبر 131/2026 زیر دفعہ 7(1)(b)(c)(ff)(h)(i)-7(2)-11F(1)(2)(5)(6)-11G-11H-11I-11J-11K-11N/ATA, 3 Exp Act. پولیس تھانہ سی ٹی ڈی کوئٹہ رجسٹرڈ درج ہو کر زیر تفتیش ہے مقدمہ ہذا میں چھ (06) نامعلوم الاسم دہشتگردوں کی نعش ہائے مردہ خانہ سول ہسپتال کوئٹہ میں موجود ہے۔ جن کی ورثاء کی تلاش جاری ہے اور ورثاء/ارشتہ دار کی تلاش کیلئے دہشتگردوں کی تصاویر شائع کی جارہی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس میں اگر کوئی متذکرہ بالا دہشتگردوں یا ان کے ورثاء/ارشتہ داروں کے متعلق معلومات رکھتا ہو یا رکھتے ہوں تو ذیل نمبر پر رابطہ کریں۔ **فون نمبر** :۔ ڈی آئی جی آفس 081-9213460 / 081-9213463 پولیس کنٹرول 081-9202555 / 081-9202777



ایس ایس پی انوسٹیگیشن سی ٹی ڈی بلوچستان کوئٹہ

PRQ No 2291/04-11-2026

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Only 39 candidates file nomination papers for Islamabad local government elections

The deadline for filing nomination papers is November 6, while the election schedule sets November 9 to 13 for scrutiny of the papers

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

The nomination process for Islamabad's 2026 local government elections has so far received a lukewarm response, with only 39 candidates submitting their papers by Tuesday evening, despite 1,665 nomination forms having been issued as of November 3.

The deadline for filing nomination papers is November 6, while the election schedule sets November 9 to 13 for scrutiny of the papers.

Candidates seeking to challenge the rejection of their nomination papers will be able to file appeals from November 14 to 18. The appellate authority is scheduled to decide these appeals between November 19 and 23.

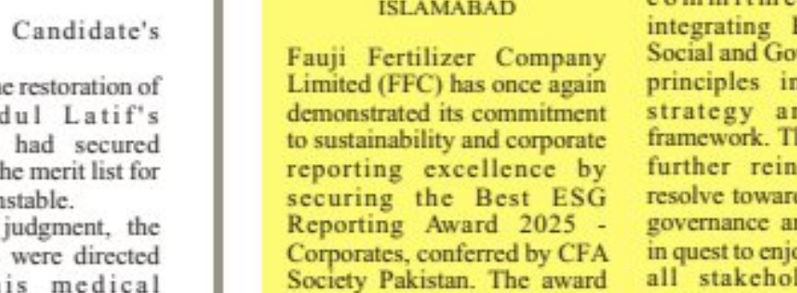
Candidates can withdraw their nomination papers until November 25,

اشتہار شوروغوغا لاوارث نعشیں

بمطابق پولیس رولز باب 23فقرہ 18

نامعلوم الاسم دہشتگرد مقدمہ فرد نمبر 166/2026 زیر دفعہ 4-5 EXP Act 7 (1) (ff) (b) (h) (i) -7 (2) -11i-11N -21i /ATA

پولیس تھانہ سی ٹی ڈی کوئٹہ بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا تحریر ہے کہ مقدمہ فرد نمبر 166 /2026 زیر دفعہ 4-5 EXP Act 7 (1) (ff) (b) (h) (i) -7 (2) -11i-11N -21i /ATA پولیس تھانہ سی ٹی ڈی کوئٹہ رجسٹرڈ درج ہو کر زیر تفتیش ہے مقدمہ ہذا میں پانچ (04) نامعلوم الاسم دہشتگردوں کی نعش ہائے مردہ خانہ سول ہسپتال کوئٹہ میں موجود ہے۔ جن کی ورثاء کی تلاش جاری ہے اور ورثاء/ارشتہ دار کی تلاش کیلئے دہشتگردوں کی تصاویر شائع کی جارہی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس میں اگر کوئی متذکرہ بالا دہشتگردوں یا ان کے ورثاء/ارشتہ داروں کے متعلق معلومات رکھتا ہو یا رکھتے ہوں تو ذیل نمبر پر رابطہ کریں۔ **فون نمبر** :۔ ڈی آئی جی آفس 081-9213460 / 081-9213463 پولیس کنٹرول 081-9202777 / 081-9202555



ایس ایس پی انوسٹیگیشن سی ٹی ڈی بلوچستان کوئٹہ

PRQ No 2290/04-11-2026

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Core inflation falls to 7.5% in Oct

The non-energy and non-food inflation eased for the second consecutive month to 7.5% in October, putting a question mark over the central bank's assumption that increasing energy and food prices may "seep into core inflation", which was used to raise its policy rate.

With the slowing pace, the difference between core inflation and the policy rate has substantially widened to 4.5% for the benefit of commercial banks, but at the expense of borrowers, mainly the finance ministry.



Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported on Monday that the urban core inflation rate, calculated after excluding volatile energy and food prices, slowed down to 7.8% and rural inflation further fell to 7.1% in October. It was the second straight month when core inflation eased after peaking at 8.8% in August.

Core inflation gauges the underlying inflationary pressures without taking into account the highly volatile energy and food prices. The indicator was used as a base by the State Bank to increase the policy rate to 12% last week.

"There is a risk that elevated food and energy inflation may further increase inflation expectations, which may seep into core inflation going forward," said the monetary policy statement issued by the central bank after the policy rate decision.

The central bank noted that re-escalation in the Middle East conflict and domestic wheat supply frictions were the two major factors keeping inflation at elevated levels and their expected continuation over the next few months had worsened the inflation outlook.

It added that elevated prices of energy and wheat and its allied products contributed significantly to the headline inflation in September, which turned out to be higher than the Monetary Policy Committee's (MPC) expectation.

However, according to the PBS, the headline inflation slowed down to 9.6% last month, which was largely in line with the finance ministry's forecast for the month.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has raised Pakistan's inflation forecast to 9.9% for the current fiscal year, which is above the official target of 8.2% and is said to be a reason for the recent rate hike. The Planning Commission of Pakistan has projected a 7.5% inflation rate, even lower than the target.

According to the PBS, inflation went down both in urban and rural areas, reaching 9.5% in urban areas and 9.8% in rural areas. Food inflation slowed down from 8.1% to 7.8% in urban areas while it dropped to 7.1% in rural areas. The energy group saw a southbound movement in both urban and rural areas. The pace decelerated to 10.6% in urban areas and 12.1% in rural areas.

During review talks last month, the IMF asked Pakistan to adjust both exchange rate and interest rate policies to tame inflation and keep the current account deficit under check.

However, the cost of housing, water, electricity, gas and fuel remained the main concern in addition to transportation charges, according to the official bulletin.

PBS reported that petrol price was 42% higher in October compared to a year ago. Within one month, there was a 3% increase in prices of petrol, which was a steep rise given the overall high rates. The per-litre petrol cost was Rs379 on Friday last week and the price was Rs402 for high-speed diesel, which was keeping transport charges elevated.

The cost of transport services went up 27% last month compared to a year ago, according to the PBS. The national data collecting agency stated that electricity tariffs rose 23% in October. The high cost of electricity is already driving consumers away from the national power grid. Motor vehicle taxes jumped 39% over a year ago, contributing to the increase in expenses.

PBS said that onion prices were 82% higher year-on-year in October followed by a 39% increase in wheat prices. Owing to serious wheat management issues, the government is already in the process of importing 765,000 tonnes of wheat. Meanwhile, wheat flour prices surged 35% compared to a year ago, according to the PBS.

But prices of tomatoes, potatoes, sugar, eggs and pulses were lower in the range of 55% to 10% last month. The closure of border with Afghanistan and the subsequent suspension of trade have helped keep prices low for these commodities, which are either exported or smuggled, but contributed to an increase in prices of fruits that were imported from the western neighbour.

Crimes against Kashmiri Journalist in Indian Occupied Jammu And Kashmir



By Syed Faiz Naqshbandi



Press freedom is a fundamental pillar of democracy, accountability and the rule of law. However, in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK), a UN-recognised disputed territory, journalists continue to face growing threats, arrests, intimidation, surveillance and restrictions on their professional activities. The situation is particularly alarming in a territory where more than 900,000 Indian armed forces personnel are reportedly deployed, representing one of the highest concentrations of military forces in the world. This extensive military presence has serious implications for peace and security, civilian life, freedom of expression and independent journalism.

According to credible reports Kashmiri journalists have massively faced harassment, police interrogations, detention and intimidation for reporting on political developments, human rights concerns and the hardships experienced by ordinary people by Indian Government and its forces. The journalists are threatened, arrests, tortured and summoned for questioning frequently and pressured to disclose confidential sources. Such practices create an atmosphere of fear and self censorship, seriously undermining independent journalism.

Since the unilateral measures of 5 August 2019, which altered the constitutional status of Jammu and Kashmir, restrictions on media freedom have intensified. Journalists face difficulties accessing information, conducting independent investigations and reporting freely. The application of stringent legislation, including the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and Public Safety Act (PSA), has further raised concerns about the criminalisation of journalistic activities.

These restrictions cannot be separated from the broader human rights situation in the territory. The torture, enforced disappearances, custodial killings, extrajudicial executions in staged encounters, arbitrary arrests and prolonged detentions in occupied Kashmir have continued to generate serious concerns. Demographic changes and measures affecting the disputed territory's distinctive identity and political character have also raised questions under international law. Journalists attempting to investigate and report these developments face additional risks and professional pressures.

The consequences extend beyond individual journalists. When the media is intimidated into silence, victims of human rights violations lose an important channel through which their suffering can reach the international community. Independent reporting is essential to expose abuses, document violations and ensure accountability.

Freedom of expression is protected under Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. India must respect its international human rights obligations and ensure that journalists can perform their professional duties without fear of harassment, arbitrary detention or retaliation.

The United Nations, OHCHR, UNESCO, international human rights organisations and global press freedom institutions must take serious notice of the deteriorating media environment in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Independent monitoring and investigations into reported violations are urgently required.

Ultimately, the Kashmir dispute cannot be resolved through military force, censorship or demographic changes. Its lasting and peaceful solution lies in the implementation of relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, which recognise the right of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to determine their political future through a free and impartial plebiscite.

Silencing Kashmiri journalists there cannot silence the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. Protecting press freedom is inseparable from protecting human rights, justice and the fundamental right to self-determination.

The author is senior leader of All Parties HurriyetConference (APHC) and legal expert of international law.

Food Insecurity and Rising Poverty in Pakistan



By: M Rashid Tabassum



Pakistan is an agricultural country blessed with fertile land, hardworking farmers and considerable agricultural resources. Yet millions of families struggle to afford adequate and nutritious food. Rising poverty, inflation, agricultural difficulties and unequal access to food have turned this into a serious national concern. The problem highlights a basic reality: producing enough food does not guarantee food security if people cannot afford to buy itAccording to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report issued in February 2026, around 7.5 million people, or 21 per cent of the population in the rural areas assessed in Pakistan, faced acute food insecurity between December 2025 and March 2026. Floods, climate change, declining agricultural incomes and economic pressures have of the extremely poor population in the relevant regional grouping. The national poverty rate, measured against the national poverty line, stood at 22.2 per cent in fiscal year 2025. Meanwhile, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics data show that annual food inflation reached 8.20 per cent in September 2026, while year-on-year inflation measured by the Sensitive Price Indicator stood at 11.97 per cent for the week ending October 10.

When food prices rise, low-income households are often forced to cut back on nutritious items such as meat, milk, eggs and fruit. This can have serious consequences for children's health and development. The prices of seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, diesel and electricity increase farmers' production costs. At the same time, inadequate returns for their crops reduce their earnings and discourage investment in future production. The result is an unfair arrangement in which farmers may receive low prices for their produce while consumers pay more in retail markets.

Weak supply chains, hoarding and a lack of transparency in agricultural markets also contribute to price instability. Poor storage facilities and inadequate transportation lead to significant post-harvest losses. Investment in modern warehouses, cold-chain facilities and efficient distribution systems could help preserve crops, reduce waste and Support Programme, provide an important safety net for vulnerable families. However, these efforts must be supported by long-term agricultural reforms. Farmers need affordable, quality inputs, better access to credit, modern irrigation methods and crop varieties suited to changing climatic conditions.

Technology can also contribute to a more resilient agricultural system. Artificial intelligence and digital tools can help farmers monitor crops, anticipate weather conditions and use water more efficiently. However, such facilities must be accessible to small farmers rather than remaining limited to large agricultural enterprises. Nutrition programmes targeting children, pregnant women and low-income households must also be strengthened to address the health consequences of food insecurity.

Ultimately, Pakistan must treat food security as a national priority that links agriculture with economic policy, healthcare and social welfare. Better planning, transparent markets, improved farm incomes and greater purchasing power for poor households are essential to



Convener, Parliamentary Task Force on SDG's Ms. Shaista Pervez Malik addressing the Structural Model of Mapping SDG's in International Islamic University, Islamabad under the Hum Hain Pakistan – SDG's Youth Campaign 2026 at Allama Iqbal Auditorium Faisal Campus

CamScanner



Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan held a bilateral meeting with Türkiye's Minister of Trade, Prof. Dr. Ömer Bolat, on the sidelines of the 42nd Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) in Istanbul, focusing on expanding bilateral trade

Kayai urges SMEs to fully leverage export facilitation scheme

Minister of State for Finance and Railways Bilal Azhar Kayani here on Tuesday affirmed the government's commitment to boosting the export sector and improving the ease of doing business, urging Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to take full advantage of the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS).

Special Correspondent

ISLAMABAD



: Minister of State for Finance and Railways Bilal Azhar Kayani here on Tuesday affirmed the government's commitment to boosting the export sector and improving the ease of doing business, urging Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to take full advantage of the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS).
He made these remarks while chairing a consultative meeting of the Prime Minister's Committee to Review the Export Facilitation Scheme at the Finance Division.
The meeting was attended by Secretary Commerce, Special Secretaries from Finance and Commerce, senior officials from the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), alongside representatives of the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA), Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA), and the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry and prominant exporters via video link.
During the session, various proposals were reviewed in detail to streamline the scheme, enhance its efficiency, and align it with evolving trade dynamics.
Kayani underscored that the prescribed qualification criteria for inclusion in any EFS category would be applied across the board, reiterating that no exemptions would be granted regarding standard operating procedures.The minister directed the relevant authorities to clarify and simplify regulations governing the import of capital goods and manufacturing machinery for exporters. The meeting also conducted an in-depth review of the amendments at cutting export overheads, encouraging local value addition, and stimulating domestic manufacturing.

FBR approves 196,000 tax returns applications

Business Reporter

ISLAMABAD



A delegation of businessmen held a meeting with the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman, Rashid Mehmood Langrial in Islamabad and discussed with him the issue of tax returns filed after October 31, 2026,
Talking with businessmen, Federal Board of Revenue Chairman Rashid Mehmood Langrial said that FBR approved 196,000 tax applications. He further stated that number of tax filers is likely to reach 82,00,000.

Tea importers raised concerns over the Federal Board of Revenue's (FBR) recent decision to set a minimum retail price (MRP) of Rs1,200 per kg and additional taxes, fearing a price hike and an increase in smuggled tea entering the market.



KSE-100 surges 1,454 points to reclaim 168,000 mark

Strong buying activity lifts Pakistan Stock Exchange benchmark index above 168,000 during second trading session of the week

Staff Reporter

KARACHI

The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed strong bullish momentum on , with the benchmark KSE-100 Index recovering the 168,000-point level following a substantial rally.
The index surged by more than 1,900 points during early trading, reaching an intraday high of 168,469 points as buying activity strengthened across the market.
The positive momentum continued throughout the session, allowing the benchmark index to close at 168,018 points, gaining 1,454 points from the previous close.
On Monday, the KSE-100 Index had settled at 166,564 points after adding 154 points during a volatile trading session. The latest rally marks a significant improvement in market performance, bringing the benchmark index back above the 168,000-point psychological threshold.



Dollar dips with US midterm results in focus

Business Reporter

SHANGHAI/SINGAPORE

The dollar fell against most major currencies on Wednesday ahead of results from US midterm elections, with investors bracing for a potentially strong Democratic showing.
The first results in the US midterm elections began trickling in, with Democratic Senator Jon Ossoff winning reelection in Georgia in the first major ?race to be called.
The question of whether Democrats can wrest control of Congress from Donald Trump's Republicans, though was likely still hours away from a definitive answer.
The euro firmed 0.2% to $1.1212, while the yen strengthened to 158.30 per US dollar in early trading. The dollar index , which measures the greenback against a basket of six currencies, edged ?down 0.2% to 101.7.
The yield on the benchmark US 10-year Treasury note fell 4 ?basis points to 4.919%.

Customs, PCDMA agree to resolve issues of commercial importers

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD



The Customs Department and the Pakistan Chemicals & Dyes Merchants Association (PCDMA) have agreed to resolve issues faced by commercial importers through mutual consultation and improved coordination. Progress was reported on costly ICIS scan pricing, the DPL waiver, self-clearance facilities and customs valuation rulings.
The understanding was reached during a meeting between a PCDMA delegation, led by Chairman Muhammad Saleem Muakti, and Chief Collector of Customs Appraisement (South) Wajid Ali here at Customs House. The meeting discussed various challenges confronting commercial importers at the import stage and explored practical measures to streamline customs procedures and facilitate trade.
The PCDMA delegation was comprised of Mustafa Asad and Irfan Asgher, Members of the Managing Committee, former Chairman Arif Lakhani and former Managing Committee members Umair Anwar and Yahya Arshad.
On ICIS scan pricing, the delegation noted that the service costs approximately $15,000 to $20,000 annually, rendering it unaffordable for a large number of importers. The Chief Collector agreed that where Customs requires verification of prices of imported raw materials, PCDMA may issue price verification certificates based on its available resources and market information. These certificates could be accepted as an alternative to ICIS scan pricing. He observed that the Customs Department itself maintains scan subscriptions for only a limited range of products, making PCDMA's assistance a practical option.
Regarding the DPL waiver, the delegation pointed out that the relevant regulator, NEPSA, had granted a three-month waiver and requested that the entire concessionary period be counted without exception so that consignments face no unnecessary complications. The Chief Collector assured the delegation that the three-month waiver would be fully implemented and that Customs would create no hurdles in this regard.
The delegation requested restoration of the NTN-based self-clearance facility for at least six months. Agreeing to the proposal, the Chief Collector said PCDMA could issue recommendation letters for its members, enabling Customs to verify the importers and grant NTN-based self-clearance approval for at least six months on a priority basis.
PCDMA Chairman Saleem Muakti

Pakistan surpasses vietnam in rice exports during September 2026

Pakistan exported 420,000 tonnes of rice in September 2026, surpassing Vietnam, while first-quarter export volume rose 51% and foreign exchange earnings

Commerce Reporter

KARACHI

Pakistan recorded a significant increase in rice exports in September 2026, overtaking Vietnam despite tensions in the Gulf region and disruptions to international shipping routes.
According to available data, Pakistan exported 420,000 tonnes of rice to global markets during September, compared with Vietnam's exports of 337,000 tonnes. Vietnam is the world's third-largest rice exporter.
The report stated that demand for Pakistani rice, particularly basmati, remained strong in international markets despite tensions between the United States and Iran and disruptions to maritime transportation in the Gulf region. This helped boost Pakistan's rice exports.
Figures showed that Pakistan's total rice export volume increased by 51 percent during the first quarter of fiscal year 2026-27, covering July to September, compared with the corresponding period last year.
Foreign exchange earnings from rice exports also rose by 37 percent during the same period, reflecting growing international demand for Pakistani rice.
Experts said the increase in rice exports could become an important source of foreign exchange earnings for Pakistan.

However, they stressed that improving product quality, reducing production costs and strengthening the export supply chain would be essential to maintaining competitiveness in the global market.

IMF raises alarm over Pakistan's tax shortfall, calls for emergency revenue measures

The IMF has raised concerns over Pakistan's tax revenue shortfall, urging emergency measures, broader taxation and improved collections to meet the Rs15.264 trillion annual target.

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has expressed concern over Pakistan's widening tax revenue shortfall and proposed emergency taxation measures to help the government meet its annual revenue collection target of Rs15.264 trillion, according to sources.The global lender has reportedly raised concerns over a revenue gap of Rs129 billion in October and a cumulative shortfall of Rs96 billion during the first four months of the current fiscal year.

According to sources familiar with the discussions, the IMF has stressed the need to accelerate tax collection, describing the existing revenue performance as insufficient to achieve the agreed annual target.
The lender has also called for an improvement in Pakistan's tax-to-GDP ratio, emphasising the need to bring more economic activities and previously untaxed sectors into the formal tax system.
Sources within the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) said the government could consider additional taxation measures or reductions in public expenditure if the revenue shortfall continues to widen.





They added that upcoming reviews under the IMF programme could involve stricter revenue-related conditions, with emergency taxation options likely to feature in discussions if collection targets remain unmet.GST collection and broader tax baseThe IMF has reportedly identified higher General Sales Tax (GST) collection at both federal and provincial levels as an important area for improving overall revenue performance.
The lender has also proposed strengthening tax collection from the retail, wholesale and agricultural sectors before the presentation of the next federal budget. According to sources, the IMF wants authorities to demonstrate measurable progress in bringing these sectors into the tax net rather than relying primarily on existing taxpayers for additional revenue.
The global lender has further stressed the importance of expanding the tax base to cover professionals and other segments of the economy that remain outside the formal taxation system.
Improving compliance and broadening the number of registered taxpayers are also considered essential to strengthening domestic revenue mobilisation.Pressure under $7 billion IMF programme Pakistan is currently implementing a $7 billion loan programme with the IMF, under which the government has committed to meeting several fiscal and structural benchmarks.

CamScanner

Iran-US deal still out of reach despite diplomatic push, Iranian official says

■ Qatar has stepped up mediation efforts amid fears the conflict launched by the United States and Israel in February could reignite after Tuesday's elections.



Web DESK

TEHRAN

Iran and the United States remain far from a deal to end the war, a senior Iranian official told Reuters , despite intensified diplomatic efforts, opens new tab to avert a return to major conflict after the US midterm elections.

Overnight, the US carried out "defensive" strikes on Iran's ?Qeshm island, with a US official saying the strikes targeted surface-to-air missiles used against US assets. Another official said the strikes appeared to be limited and did not signal a resumption of major combat operations.

Qatar has stepped up mediation efforts amid fears the conflict launched by the United States and Israel in February could reignite after Tuesday's elections.

"Mediators are working hard to narrow gaps between Tehran and Washington," the senior Iranian official said, after Qatari mediators travelled to Tehran on Monday night for talks on a version of a draft US-Iran deal that has been under negotiation for the past eight days.



Hours after US voters stripped President Donald Trump's Republicans of control of Congress, partly over the Iran war, thousands gathered Wednesday outside the former US embassy in Tehran for an annual anti-American rally.

Saudi-led coalition says it intercepted drone over Makkah region

■ The Saudi-led coalition said it destroyed a drone over the Makkah region, while Yemen's Houthi spokesman denied carrying out an operation against Saudi territory.

Web Desk

RIYADH

The Saudi-led coalition said that it had intercepted and destroyed a drone over the Makkah region in western Saudi Arabia, amid escalating tensions with Yemen's Houthi group.

Coalition spokesman Turki al-Maliki announced the interception on X but provided no details about possible injuries or damage.

Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree said the group had not conducted any operation targeting Saudi territory that day.

Last week, the coalition said it had intercepted and destroyed a Houthi ballistic missile targeting southern Saudi Arabia and a drone



in the Riyadh region. It also reported intercepting a drone over the Makkah region, a claim Saree dismissed as false. He said the group's operations were targeting Saudi oil facilities and military bases.

The coalition said on October 24 that it had destroyed two Houthi ballistic missiles fired towards Taif and Yanbu. Saudi Civil Defence briefly issued alerts warning of potential danger in Makkah and Jeddah.

Meanwhile, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia were ongoing, as Tehran sought new regional security arrangements without foreign military involvement.

Senior officials from Saudi Arabia, Turkiye and Pakistan met Iranian officials in Tehran last week in the first high-level contact between Iran and the three countries since August. Riyadh said the visit was intended to open channels for negotiations and prevent renewed military escalation.

The Houthis have intensified attacks on Saudi oil facilities and airports, disrupting flights and oil exports and prompting Saudi air strikes in Yemen. Yemen has been embroiled in civil war since the Houthis took control of the capital, Sanaa, in 2014.

The report also said the United States carried out what it described as defensive strikes on Iran's Qeshm Island overnight, targeting surface-to-air missiles used against US assets. Iran's Revolutionary Guards said they had downed a US MQ-9 drone near the Strait of Hormuz.

A senior Iranian official said mediators were working to narrow differences between Tehran and Washington. The official said Iran's conditions must be met before the Strait of Hormuz could reopen, and that nuclear talks could begin only afterward.

Indian national killed after 2 helicopters collide in Nepal's Mount Everest region

■ The accident comes during the peak trekking season in Nepal, when helicopters ferry hikers

Web Desk

TEHRN

An Indian national was killed and a New Zealander injured after two helicopters collided as they prepared to land in Nepal's Mount Everest region on Tuesday, authorities said.

The New Zealander has been rescued, the chief district officer of Solukhumbu district, Kaman Singh Thapa Magar, told Reuters. The incident took place in the base camp area of Mount Everest, Magar said.

The helicopters were operated by two private firms, Fishtail Air and Dynasty Air. Fishtail Air said in a statement that its helicopter was carrying passengers who had been rescued from the Everest region when it crashed while landing.

The Indian and the New Zealander on board were tourists, a Fishtail



official said, while a Dynasty Air official said its helicopter was carrying only cargo.

The accident comes during the peak trekking season in Nepal, when helicopters ferry hikers and climbers in the region.

Last week, six people were killed in a helicopter crash in the Indian Himalayan state of Uttarakhand. The helicopter was flying from Badrinath, a prominent pilgrimage destination for Hindus located in the mountains, to Dehradun city, the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) said in a statement.

All six people on board the chopper,

Toxic air pollution surges in Indian capital

● But restrictions are are routinely flouted, with the city reverberating with explosions.

Web Desk

WASHINGTON

Toxic air pollution in India's capital New Delhi surged on Wednesday to more than 30 times the World Health Organization's recommended daily limit, data from air monitors showed.

The deterioration came three days after authorities tightened measures, including restrictions on traffic and construction, to curb smog in one of the world's most polluted capitals, with the wider metropolis home to more than 30 million people.

Pollution is expected to worsen ahead of Sunday's Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, when firework displays add to the already poisonous air.

The Supreme Court this month allowed limited use of so-called "green" firecrackers, designed to reduce emissions, during Diwali.

But restrictions are are routinely flouted, with the city reverberating with explosions.

On Wednesday, levels of PM2.5 -- cancer-causing microparticles small enough to enter the bloodstream -- hit over 461 micrograms per cubic metre in



parts of the city, according to monitoring firm IQAir.

Vehicles account for 23 percent of Delhi's winter pollution, while biomass burning, including farm stubble fires, contributes 20 percent, according to India's environment ministry.

Industry, including coal-fired power plants, contributes about nine percent.

The largest share, 27 percent, comes from secondary particles, formed when gases released by vehicles, industry, power plants and biomass burning react in the atmosphere.

The formation of these particles is also fuelled by the vast quantities of fertiliser spread on fields around the capital, argues Jacob Koshy, author of a new book on pollution.

Ammonia released by fertilisers reacts with other pollutants to form secondary particulate matter.

"The sheer quantity of ammonia that is going into the atmosphere creates a base layer for other pollutants to react with," said Koshy, science editor of The Hindu newspaper and author of "The Nitrogen Bomb".

North Korea rejects US allegations over Binance crypto theft, warns of response

Web Desk

North Korea

North Korea rejected US allegations linking it to a multibillion-dollar cryptocurrency theft involving Binance, accusing Washington of using cybercrime allegations to undermine its international reputation.

Kim Yo Jong, the influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and a senior Workers' Party official, called the allegations a "grave political provocation," state news agency KCNA reported on Tuesday.

She said the FBI was attempting to portray North Korea as a "cyber criminal state" by alleging that a



hacking group supported by Pyongyang was involved in the theft.

"The US assertion is an absurd rhetoric and nothing new," Kim said in a statement. She accused Washington of routinely blaming North Korea for major international cyberattacks without providing credible evidence.

Vance says US has no strict deadline for Iran to reach deal



Web Desk

Washngation

The United States has no strict deadline for Iran to reach an agreement to avoid a possible resumption of military strikes, Vice President JD Vance said Monday, expressing cautious optimism about ongoing diplomatic efforts between the two countries.Speaking to reporters after returning to Washington from campaign stops in New York and Ohio, Vance said the Trump administration's primary concern is ensuring that Iran does not rebuild or attempt to rebuild its nuclear program.

"We want to make sure they don't rebuild it or try to rebuild it. That's what matters most to the United States," Vance said. He stressed that any potential agreement must include a firm and verifiable commitment from Tehran to prevent the reconstruction of its nuclear capabilities.

Russian strikes kill 26 in Ukraine after longest ceasefire ends

■ Russia targeted a village in Zaporizhzhia, adjacent to Kherson, with repeated strikes

Web Desk

MASCOW

Ukraine said that Russian strikes on a school distributing humanitarian aid killed at least 26 people, dashing fragile hopes of "progress toward peace" after a local ceasefire in the south expired without violations.

Russia resumed its strikes on the southern region of Kherson after the end of a ceasefire in the area, the longest truce in the war raging between the neighbours since Russia's 2022 invasion, Kyiv said. A rare pause in the fighting, brokered by US First Lady Melania Trump to enable a mission to the Russian-occupied city of Oleshky, ended Sunday after starting on Tuesday, with neither side reporting breaches.

But hours after the truce, Russia targeted a village in Zaporizhzhia, adjacent to Kherson, with repeated strikes that killed at least 26 people, the acting regional governor said.



Some of the dead had come to collect aid at a local school.

Footage posted by the Ukrainian emergency services showed the building reduced to piles of smouldering rubble and rescuers working at the site.

"Every Monday, humanitarian aid was distributed to people there," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said in his daily address.

"The Russians carried out the first strike just as people arrived -- several aerial bombs. Then, there was a repeat strike -- more aerial bombs, this time targeting the shelter."Among those killed were "two rescue workers and four police officers", acting regional governor Mykhailo Semikin said on Telegram.

The service named the rescuers as two 44-year-olds: Denys Konovalenko and Oleksy Sushchevsky.

"Every day, they went out to help people, working in dangerous conditions and risking their own lives to save others," it said in a statement.

Zelensky said that after the Oleshky truce, "there was a moment when the next steps could have shown that progress toward peace was possible".

"With these killings, Russia is sending an entirely opposite signal: Russia is counting on more killings. There must be a response to this."

- Russia fortifies positions -

The ceasefire last week enabled an evacuation of the Russian-occupied city of Oleshky. It was the longest pause in fighting between the neighbours in the war, which is grinding through its fifth year after killing hundreds of thousands of people and displacing millions.

A senior Ukrainian figure told AFP on Sunday that Russia refused a Ukrainian offer to extend the truce.

CamScanner



Sarah Khan turns Disneyland Paris into fairytale getaway with daughter Alyana

■ Another candid moment shows her strolling down Main Street, U.S.A., Soaking in the vintage ambiance of the park's Victorian style architecture.

News Desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistani television star Sarah Khan has delighted fans with heartwarming glimpses from her family trip to Disneyland Paris, where fairytales met real life memories.

From posing in front of the iconic castle to watching fireworks light up the Parisian sky with her daughter Alyana, the actress gave followers a peek into a truly magical getaway.

The pictures capture Sarah's charm against the dreamy backdrop of Sleeping Beauty's Castle. Dressed casually yet stylishly, she completed her look with rose gold Minnie Mouse ears, embracing the Disney spirit in full.

Another candid moment shows her strolling down Main Street, U.S.A., soaking in the vintage ambiance of the park's Victorian style architecture.

Among the snapshots, a close-up of her dazzling solitaire engagement ring caught attention, while her playful Disney themed manicure, featuring sparkles and Minnie-inspired detailing.

But the true star of the trip appeared to be little Alyana. In an adorable moment straight out of a storybook, she was dressed as Elsa from Frozen, complete with a flowing costume.

A short video clip showed the mother-daughter duo watching the spectacular nighttime illuminations, a display of projections, fountains, and fireworks.

In a tender moment, Alyana rested her head on her mother's shoulder, capturing the essence of family warmth amid the dazzling show.

Another lighthearted clip featured Alyana enthusiastically singing "Let It Go" in the car, proving that Disney magic extends well beyond the park gates.

Sarah Khan is one of Pakistan's most celebrated television actresses, known for her versatility and on-screen grace. She began her acting journey in the early 2010s and rose to prominence with hit dramas such as Sabaat, Raqs e Bismil, and Hum Tum.

Rabeeca Khan shares heartfelt Ramadan message

■ This spiritual reflection comes as Rabeeca has been actively creating Ramadan themed reels with her husband.

Web desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistani influencer Rabeeca Khan has shared a reflective Ramadan message on Instagram, reminding followers that true spirituality lies not just in rituals but in the purity of one's heart.

The post, shared via her Instagram Story, featured a Roman Urdu quote emphasizing that prayer, Hajj, and charity hold little value if one harbors jealousy or ill intentions toward others.



The message highlighted an important spiritual theme, that Allah's mercy is attained not merely through physical acts of worship but through sincerity, kindness, and a clean heart.

The quote warned against envy (hasad), negative thinking, and constantly seeking faults in others, encouraging inner reform during the holy month.

This spiritual reflection comes as Rabeeca has been actively creating Ramadan themed reels with her husband.

The couple has been sharing short videos centered around fasting routines, iftar preparations, modest fashion choices, and lighthearted moments that blend faith with everyday married life.



Saboor Aly shares glimpses from sister-in-law's birthday bash

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

Pakistani actress Saboor Aly delighted fans by sharing snapshots from Mariam Ansari's milestone 30th birthday, a celebration that blended sporty energy with stylish flair under the playful theme "Thirty-Love."

The birthday bash embraced a padel tennis concept, cleverly turning Mariam's age into a witty nod to tennis scoring.

Large decorative panels resembling a padel court set the scene, while balloon clusters in hunter green, soft pink and white.

A standout backdrop reading "Mariam's Birthday Smash" made for eye-catching photos, while cutouts of rackets and tennis balls completed the immersive theme.

One moment captured the blue turf court glowing under night lights, framed by an arch of balloons with the words "Game Time" shining in digital script.

The birthday girl herself stayed true to the sporty aesthetic, posing confidently in a dark tracksuit paired with a white mesh top and headband.

Beyond the party highlights, Saboor Aly has been equally active on the professional front. She is currently appearing alongside her husband Ali Ansari in the drama serial Fasalay, where their on-screen pairing has drawn considerable attention.

Ayeza Khan proves once again why she's Pakistan's style queen

■ The candlelit visuals and regal styling make the look feel less like a photoshoot and more like a cinematic royal portrait.

News Desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistani superstar Ayeza Khan has once again set the internet ablaze, this time with a breathtaking velvet ensemble that blends traditional opulence with modern high fashion drama. The candlelit visuals and regal styling make the look feel less like a photoshoot and more like a cinematic royal portrait.

At the heart of the ensemble is a floor length deep reddish-brown shade velvet gown, tailored to perfection. The structured sleeveless bodice features a criss cross halter



delicate gold chain subtly complements the neckline.

Her beauty look enhances the drama, warm bronze smokey eyes, fluttery lashes, and softly winged liner create depth, while glossy nude-brown lips mirror the richness of the outfit.

Her dewy complexion, highlighted cheekbones, and sleek center-parted low bun single candle casting flickering shadows, the scene creates a chiaroscuro effect, highlighting the velvet's texture and the shimmer of gold accents.

Apart from her fashion prowess, Ayeza Khan's enduring appeal stems from a career filled with hit performances. Rising to prominence with dramas like Pyarey Afzal, she solidified her superstar status through powerful roles in serials such as Mere Paas Tum Ho, Chupke Chupke, and Jafaa.

Married to fellow actor Danish Taimoor, Ayeza balances stardom with family life, often sharing glimpses of both worlds with her millions of followers.

Whether dominating prime-time ratings or redefining fashion standards, she continues to evolve as both an actress and style icon.



Hackers steal medical details of 15 million in France

Web Desk

MUMBAI

France's health ministry said Friday that administrative details and medical notes on more than 15 million people had been hacked.The announcement came only days after officials warned that the details of 1.2 million French bank accounts had been hacked using the credentials of an official.

The France 2 television channel, which revealed the medical hack, said top politicians were among the millions affected and that the details were now visible online.

It said that some of the information hacked and since seen online included details on whether a patient was homosexual or had AIDS.

The health ministry said the hack, carried in late 2025, involved information from about 1,500 medical practices who had used software made by the Cegedim Sante company.

The data breach primarily involved patients' names, phone numbers, and postal addresses, but for 169,000 patients there were doctors' notes "some of which may be sensitive data", the ministry said.

It insisted however that no prescriptions or results of biological examinations had been involved.

The ministry said the hack had been claimed but gave no details on the group. Cegedim Sante made a criminal complaint over the hack in October 2025. Cegedim said the breach involved about 1,500 doctors out of some 3,800 who used the software.

Gerome Billois, a cybersecurity expert at the Wavestone consultancy, said the leak could be "the biggest in France" in the health sector and could have "irreparable consequences".

"Once health information that says: 'You have AIDS' or 'You have such and such a disease' is released, you can never go back," Billois told AFP.

The French finance ministry announced on February 18 that a hacker had gained access to a national bank database and consulted information on 1.2 million accounts.

TENDER NOTICE

The Provincial Library Balochistan invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. **TSE-2627101214441 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Tender Fee Not required**

S.No	Class of Object	Bid Security
1	ICT Equipment(Network, surveillance devices, storage devices, Office Equipment) **(Total Item(s) Count: 2)**	3 %

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules – 2014. **Eligibility of Bidders:** 3 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity 6,000,000 in Previous 3 Years Turn over of at least 6,000,000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years Presence in Active Tax Payer List Sales Tax Certificate The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan JV is not permissible Submission of the required Bid Security In case Bid Security is not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as in-eligible and non-responsive Submission of the required Bidding document Fee Certificate Income tax returns report audit The bidder must provide Manufacturers/Principal authorization Letter in name of procuring agency for desktops computers. The bidder must Provide Professional Tax Certificate **Procedure Of Procurement:** Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 3 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk **Issuance of tender Documents:** Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk **Last Date of bid submission:** Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 09 November, 2026till 11:30 AM through supplier dashboard. **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:30 PM on EPPS System Address: Quetta Phone no: 0819201146Fax no: 0812826515 Email: qa4157@gmail.com

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Usman Mukhtar shares cheeky birthday wish for wife Zunaira Inam

Web Desk

MUMBAI

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CamScanner

Mendis, Udara rescue Sri Lanka in three-day game

Solid fifties from the two vital batsmen lift visitors to 223-7 declared against PCB Patron's XI

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD

Skipper Kusal Mendis and Lahiru Udara struck solid fifties as Sri Lanka declared their first innings at 223-7 against PCB Patron's XI at the Oval Ground in Islamabad on Wednesday.

In the three-day show, which serves as a warm-up ahead of the Test series, Sri Lanka, who opted to bat first, had to face great trouble in the start.

Patron's XI's pacers exploited early moisture to put pressure on the visitors. At one stage Sri Lanka were 40-3.

However at this stage Kusal Mendis and Lahiru Udara, who opened the innings, took time at the crease and revived the innings with a solid 90-run partnership for the fourth wicket.

Ali Shabir broke the stand when he held Udara off his own bowling, to give the hosts a sort of relief.



Udara smashed seven fours and three sixes in his 65 for which he faced 105 balls and stayed at the wicket for 105 minutes.

Ali then immediately had the wicket of Sunal Dinusha (10), held by Azan Awais, to leave Sri Lanka at 153-5.

However, Kusal found an able partner in Anjala Bandara who put on 45 runs for the sixth wicket association with his skipper to boost Sri Lanka's total.

Fast bowler Ubaid Shah broke the partnership when he got rid of Kusal who hammered a solid 66.

Kusal, who also played a few good strokes, smashed 11 fours in his 72-ball knock. The skipper took 157 minutes at the crease.

Bandara batted until Mendis declared the innings at 223-7 to test his bowlers also in good bowling conditions before the stumps.

Bandara struck five fours in his unbeaten 33 for which he faced 61 balls and stayed for 112 minutes at the crease.

Earlier, Sri Lanka had a poor start when Saqib Khan got two back-to-back wickets of Pasindu Sooriyabandara (8) and Dinesh Chandimal (0) to leave Sri Lanka reeling at 21-2.

Pakistan's Maliha Ali stuns Russian champion at MMA World

Maliha entered the competition after securing a silver medal at the IMMAF World Cup in Angola earlier this year

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Maliha Ali pulled off a major upset at the International Mixed Martial Arts Federation (IMMAF) World Championships in Tbilisi, Georgia, defeating Russia's Veronika Drozdova by split decision in the women's featherweight (65.8kg) category.

The 24-year-old fighter from Hunza, Gilgit-Baltistan, overcame the two-time European champion in a closely contested bout on Tuesday. Drozdova, 19, was among the competitors representing Russia, which arrived at the championships with a squad of more than 60 athletes and substantial institutional backing.

Maliha, a wushu champion and national kickboxing gold medallist, entered the competition after securing a silver medal at the IMMAF World Cup in Angola earlier this year.



She began the contest cautiously but gradually took control, using her southpaw stance to close the distance and pin her opponent against the cage. She landed several clean strikes towards the end of the opening round, although Drozdova also managed to connect with a few powerful punches.

Maliha strengthened her position in the second round by securing a takedown and moving into full mount, from where she delivered a series of heavy strikes.

However, she appeared to lose momentum in the final round as Drozdova took her down and controlled much of the action on the ground.

Despite losing the third round, Maliha's performance in the first two rounds proved decisive, with the judges awarding her the victory.

Pakistan MMA Federation President Omar Ahmed said the team had organised a six-week training camp and hired an international jiu-jitsu and grappling coach to address weaknesses identified during Maliha's previous competition in Angola.

He acknowledged the significant difference in resources available to the Russian and Pakistani teams, describing Pakistan's federation as one of the least-funded participants at the event.

Despite limited resources, Ahmed said the fighters' determination and commitment had helped them compete against well-established opponents.

Pakistan's campaign at last year's championships in Tbilisi was also reportedly financed entirely through private sponsorship, without government funding.

Maliha is scheduled to face Mexico's Andrea Gabriela Guzman Salazar in the quarter-finals on Wednesday.

Squash stars head to Pakistan

SPORTS Desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan will host four consecutive international squash tournaments following the ongoing Asian Team Squash Championships in Islamabad, with total prize money of $439,000 on offer across the events.

The tournaments, featuring leading men's and women's players from around the world, are expected to provide a boost to squash in Pakistan, offering local players opportunities to compete against international opposition while strengthening the country's profile as a sporting destination.

Three of the four Professional Squash Association (PSA) events will be held in Karachi, while Islamabad will host the opening tournament.

The schedule begins with the Chief of Air Staff International Squash Championship, a $40,000 men's silver-level event, which will take place in Islamabad from November 24 to 28.

Pakistan's Noor Zaman, who has climbed three places to 25th in the latest world rankings after winning the World Under-23 Championship, will be the top seed. Fellow Pakistani Ashab Irfan, who has improved seven places in the rankings, is seeded fourth.

Mohammad Asim Khan, ranked 68th in the world, has been seeded seventh, while Pakistan's Nasir Iqbal will also feature in the competition.

Karachi will then host three international tournaments offering a combined $399,000 in prize money.

The Chief of Naval Staff Squash Championship, an $18,000 event, will be held from December 1 to 5 at the PN Roshan Khan-Jahangir Khan Squash Complex. The tournament will also include a women's PSA event carrying $1,000 in prize money.

The action will move to the Creek Club for the Sindh Open International Squash Championship, scheduled for December 6 to 10.

Pakistan's Noor Zaman will be the country's sole representative in the men's draw, where world number 17 Youssef Soliman of Egypt is the top seed.



Bayern skeleton crew sink Atletico in Champions League

Teenage forward Karl opens the scoring before Laimer seals 2-0 win in Madrid



WEB DESK

MADRID

Bayern Munich overcame a horror list of absences to cruise to a 2-0 win away at Atletico Madrid in the Champions League. Teenage Germany forward Lennart Karl opened the scoring and Konrad Laimer added another as Bayern triumphed despite a bulging casualty ward.

Jamal Musiala, Luis Diaz, Serge Gnabry and Ismael Saibari were on Bayern's injury list but it meant little as freshly-minted Ballon d'Or winner Harry Kane and captain Joshua Kimmich marshalled his troops to a memorable victory.

The German champions also arrived in Madrid without coach Vincent Kompany, sick with a meningitis-related condition.

"There was a lot of noise around us heading in but we're very convinced of the squad we have, of the players we've got at our disposal and I think we showed over 90 minutes the type of football we can play," Laimer, who was named man of the match by UEFA, told Amazon Prime.

"We could've scored another goal or two. It was a very deserved win against a good team and an important three points."

Despite laying on an assist for Laimer, Kane failed to score meaning he missed out on equalling Cristiano Ronaldo's record for scoring in 11 straight Champions League games.

"We are standing together despite the difficult times at Bayern in the last weeks and are delighted we could experience this team victory together," Bayern captain Manuel Neuer said. "We heard that people were doubting how well we could perform today against a top team, just two points behind Barcelona in La Liga, but to give an answer in the way we did is sensational."

Atletico's Marcos Llorente told Movistar+ the hosts were stunned by Bayern's opener.

"They're a strong side but we were holding our own. It's the little details that decide a game, and we weren't expecting that first goal.



Hamza Roman storms in quarterfinals of J-60 Jr World Tennis Championships

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Hamza Roman storms into quarterfinals of the J-60 Bard Foundation Junior World Tennis Championships Islamabad-2026 here at the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) Tennis Complex on Tuesday. Pakistan's Hamza Roman defeated Sweden's Nils Preger in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3, to advance to the quarter final stage. Meanwhile, three other Pakistani players – Ahtesham Humayun, Amir Mazari and Muhammad Hassan Usmani – will be in action tomorrow in their respective second-round matches, aiming to progress further in the competition.

A total of 58 players, comprising 36 boys and 22 girls, from 14 countries are participating in the championship. The participating countries include Russia, Hong Kong, China, Thailand, Kazakhstan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Serbia, Australia, Spain, Canada, Belarus, Sweden and Pakistan.

The championship is sponsored by the Bard Foundation, whose valuable support is contributing significantly to the promotion and development of junior tennis in Pakistan and providing young players with an opportunity to compete at the international level.



Mendis leads Sri Lanka recovery against Patron's XI

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Kusal Mendis leads Sri Lanka XI's recovery with an unbeaten 45 as the visitors reached 162 for five against Patron's XI in their warm-up match at Islamabad Cricket Club on Wednesday.

Sri Lanka, who elected to bat after winning the toss, recovered from a difficult start after losing three wickets for just 40. Till filing of the story they had progressed to 162 in 38.4 overs, with Mendis providing the backbone of the innings.

Mendis struck eight boundaries in his 48-ball knock, maintaining an aggressive approach despite the early setbacks. Anjala Bandara was unbeaten on seven.

Earlier, Lahiru Udara anchored the innings with 65 from 105 deliveries, including seven fours and three sixes. His contribution proved crucial after Pasindu Sooriyabandara fell for eight and Dinesh Chandimal departed without scoring, both to Saqib Khan.



PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi congratulates Pakistan on winning IMC Over-40s WC

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Syed Mohsin Naqvi on Wednesday congratulated members of Pakistan Over-40 team on winning the IMC Over-40s World Cup, 2026, which was played in Guyana,

In his message, Naqvi said that Pakistan by defeating Australia in the final made the nation feel proud. "It is an honour for Pakistan to have won the event in Guyana," he said, adding the fact that Pakistani team demonstrated their cricketing skills in the presence of 15 teams was a matter of pride.

The minister said that in this connection, efforts being made by Fawad Ijaz Khan and Pakistan Veterans Cricket Association for the promotion of veterans' cricket in the country were praiseworthy.

"I again congratulate all team members from the bottom of my heart."

CamScanner



Abdul El-Sayed becomes first Muslim American to be elected to US Senate

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Democrat Abdul El-Sayed has won the Michigan Senate race, and has defeated Republican Mike Rogers in the US midterm election results declared on Wednesday, With this victory, Abdul El-Sayed made history as he will be the first Muslim American elected to the US Senate.

This was one of the most closely contested races in the US midterm elections of 2026.

Rogers was backed by US President Donald Trump.

Rogers and El Sayed clashed in a high-stakes televised debate covering key economic and foreign policy pressures, including inflation and gas prices, international trade tariffs, and the impact of economic relations with Canada.

The race also drew substantial national investment, with Republican groups spending roughly $104 million compared to $55 million by Democratic organisations.

Hamza Shahbaz calls for preservation of Pakistan's shared cultural heritage, promotion of religious harmony

■ Former Punjab chief minister and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President, Hamza Shahbaz Sharif Wednesday underscored the importance of preserving Pakistan's shared historical and cultural heritage, promoting religious harmony and projecting the country's positive image internationally.

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Former Punjab chief minister and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President, Hamza Shahbaz Sharif Wednesday underscored the importance of preserving Pakistan's shared historical and cultural heritage, promoting religious harmony and projecting the country's positive image internationally.

Hamza Shahbaz calls for preservation of Pakistan's shared cultural heritage, promotion of religious harmony

He inaugurated the conservation and restoration project of the historic Shah Allah Ditta Buddhist Caves in Islamabad, describing it as an important step towards safeguarding the country's rich cultural heritage.

Hamza Shahbaz calls for preservation of Pakistan's shared cultural heritage, promotion of religious harmony

During his visit to the Buddhist caves, Hamza Shahbaz was briefed on the project by Secretary National Heritage and Culture Asad Rehman Gilani. He appreciated the efforts of Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Aurangzeb Khan Khichi and the ministry to highlight Pakistan's positive image internationally.



Hamza Shahbaz calls for preservation of Pakistan's shared cultural heritage, promotion of religious harmony

Hamza Shahbaz said the preservation of the Shah Allah Ditta Buddhist Caves was an important initiative for protecting Pakistan's shared historical and cultural heritage. He said Islam teaches respect for other religions, protection of minority rights and preservation of their places of worship.

He said the restoration of the Buddhist caves would help project Pakistan's positive and enlightened image to the world and transform the site into an attractive historical destination for both domestic and international tourists.

Emphasising the need for improved tourism infrastructure, Hamza Shahbaz stressed the construction of a better and direct access road to the Shah Allah Ditta Buddhist Caves. He said improved road connectivity would increase tourist arrivals, create local employment opportunities and boost economic activities in the area.

He also invited diplomats and citizens from Buddhist-majority countries to visit the historic caves with their families, saying the site could become a symbol of mutual respect, religious harmony and shared cultural heritage.

Speaking on the occasion, Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture, Aurangzeb Khan Khichi reaffirmed the government's commitment to the conservation and restoration of the Shah Allah Ditta Buddhist Caves.

He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the government was committed to preserving Buddhist historical sites across Pakistan.

Aurangzeb Khan Khichi urged the Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) and the media to highlight the historical and religious significance of the Shah Allah Ditta Buddhist Caves to promote tourism and raise awareness about the country's rich cultural heritage.

He said the preservation of Buddhist heritage would play an important role in promoting cultural diplomacy and interfaith harmony.

Kundi, SIFC discuss investment opportunities, industrial development in KP

● The briefing highlighted SIFC's role in bringing federal and provincial stakeholders onto a common platform, facilitating investors and addressing procedural and regulatory impediments to business development.

SPECIAL REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

:Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi discussed investment opportunities and measures to harness the province's economic potential during a meeting with senior officials of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), accompanied by a delegation of provincial officials.

During the meeting, the governor was briefed on SIFC's mandate, institutional role and ongoing initiatives aimed at improving Pakistan's investment climate through a coordinated, investor-centric approach, a news release said on Wednesday.



The briefing highlighted SIFC's role in bringing federal and provincial stakeholders onto a common platform, facilitating investors and addressing procedural and regulatory impediments to business development.

The meeting featured detailed discussions on diverse business and investment opportunities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with particular emphasis on tapping the province's economic potential, promoting industrial activity and attracting greater private-sector investment.

The optimization of existing Special Economic Zones (SEZs) was also discussed, focusing on their effective utilization and the creation of an enabling environment for industrial development.

The delegation was further briefed on regulatory reforms being pursued under SIFC's facilitation framework, particularly initiatives aimed at simplifying business procedures, reducing regulatory burdens and improving coordination among relevant government institutions.

These reforms are intended to make the business environment more facilitative, transparent and conducive to investment and enterprise development.



Ishaq Dar says surplus sugar exports must not push up domestic prices

■ The meeting conducted a detailed assessment of existing sugar stocks

SPECIAL REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar on Wednesday said that surplus sugar exports must not push up domestic prices of the commodity in the country,

The statement came at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on the Export of Surplus Sugar to review ongoing measures and the administrative, technical and procedural framework for exporting sugar.

The meeting, which Dar was chairing, conducted a detailed assessment of existing sugar stocks and domestic requirements to ensure that exports do not affect supplies or price stability in the local market.

Dar stressed that sugar exports must not undermine price stability in the country, adding that protecting domestic consumers remained the government's top priority.

He said exports of surplus agricultural commodities could strengthen the country's agricultural economy and help generate valuable foreign exchange.

The deputy prime minister directed the relevant authorities to maintain strategic sugar reserves to meet domestic requirements and ensure an uninterrupted supply for local consumers.

The meeting was attended by federal ministers for National Food Security and Research and Economic Affairs, the Minister of State for Finance, the Prime Minister's Adviser on Industries and Production, and Special Assistant Tariq Bajwa.

Federal secretaries and senior officials from relevant ministries and departments also participated in the meeting.Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar on Wednesday said that surplus sugar exports must not push up domestic prices of the commodity in the country,

The statement came at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on the Export of Surplus Sugar to review ongoing measures and the administrative, technical and procedural framework for exporting sugar.

ECP appoints 17 officers to monitor Islamabad LB polls

■ According to a notification issued by the ECP on Wednesday, the 16 monitoring officers have been assigned specific groups of union councils across the federal capital to monitor electoral activities and report violations of the code of conduct.

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has appointed Additional Deputy Commissioner Uzair Ali Khan as District Monitoring Officer (DMO) and 16 other officers as monitoring officers to oversee compliance with the code of conduct during the December 20 local government elections in Islamabad and ensure transparency throughout the electoral process.

According to a notification issued by the ECP on Wednesday, the 16 monitoring officers have been assigned specific groups of union councils across the federal capital to monitor



electoral activities and report violations of the code of conduct.

Assistant Director Anjum Hayat has been assigned Union Councils 1 to 3 and 122 to 125, while Research Officer Javed Iqbal will monitor Union Councils 4 to 10.

Assistant Director Abdul Razzaq has been assigned Union Councils 11 to 15 and 17 to 19.

Assistant Director Shahid Hussain will oversee Union Councils 16, 20 to 25 and 53, while Assistant Director Ghulam Murtaza will monitor Union Councils 26 to 31.

CDA Assistant Director Usman Rashid has been assigned Union Councils 32 to 38, while CDA Assistant Director Syed Muhammad Osama Wasti will oversee Union Councils 39 to 46.

CDA Town Planner Shaoor Ahmed will monitor Union Councils 50 to 52 and 54 to 59.

Similarly, CDA Assistant Director Shabbir Hussain Sandhu has been assigned Union Councils 47 to 49 and 60 to 64; Zafar Ali Baloch, Union Councils 65 to 73; Ijaz Mahmood, Union Councils 74 to 80; and Ali Asghar, Union Councils 81 to 87.

362 AQI again puts Lahore at top of world's most polluted cities



WEB DESK

LAHORE

Dense smog continues to engulf Lahore and its surroundings as the air quality index (AQI) in the city of gardens touched the 362 mark on Wednesday, posing serious threat to the health of people, Long queues of patients suffering from influenza symptoms and eye infections can be seen at hospitals amid worsening smog and air pollution.

The Health Department has advised Asthma patients as well as pregnant women to be careful and shun going out of their houses as preventive measures and use facemasks.

A maximum of 722 AQI level was recorded at Allama Iqbal while at Burki, the AQI level was 455, Model Town 362, Phase-V 282 and Bedian Road 264.

As far as the situation in other cities of Punjab was concerned, AQI in Bahawalnagar stood at 606, while it was 463 in Jhang, 385 in Multan, 344 in Rahim Yar Khan, 294 in Bahawalpur and Faisalabad, 273 in Sargodha, and 247 in Gujranwala.



A health worker sprays anti-dengue insecticide during a special fumigation drive in Federal Capital. The drive is part of efforts to control mosquito breeding and prevent the spread of dengue fever

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