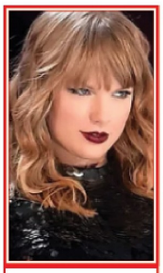
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SPORTS

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Red Line BRT Faces Two-Year Delay, Admits Sharjeel

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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

13 Indian-Backed Terrorists Eliminated In Daring DI Khan Operation



DI KHAN: Security forces have eliminated 13 Indian-sponsored terrorists during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Dera Ismail Khan district, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Wednesday.

The IBO was conducted in DI Khan's "Daraban general area on reported presence of khwarij belonging to Indian Proxy, Fitna al Khwarij", said the military's media wing.

During the operation, our troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location, resulting in the killing of over a dozen Indian-sponsored terrorists, read the statement.

Weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorists, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities in these areas, said the ISPR.

The military's media wing added that the eliminated terrorists were also involved in facilitating a suicide bombing attack in Daraban in December 2023, abduction and target killing of government officials and innocent civilians.

A sanitisation operation was also conducted in the area to eliminate any other terrorists.

"The security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of Indian-sponsored terrorism from the country," it concluded.

The country has witnessed a surge in cross-border terror incidents since Taliban rulers returned to Afghanistan in 2021, particularly in the bordering provinces of KP and Balochistan.

In August, the incidents surged by 74% compared to July, according to a report by the Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS).

The Islamabad-based think tank recorded 194 fatalities from militant attacks during the month.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reiterated his resolve to eliminate terrorism from the country, saying that Afghanistan must choose between siding with terrorists or standing with Pakistan. He warned there would be zero tolerance for ambiguity on the issue.

Pakistan has hosted Afghans for more than four decades, from the Soviet invasion through the Taliban takeover in 2021. Some refugees were born and raised in Pakistan; others are still waiting for third-country relocation.—RT/Agency

PM Shehbaz Confronts IMF Chief At UNGA, Cites Floods Crippling Pakistan's Economy



New York: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that Pakistan is making steady progress in meeting targets set under the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme, but stressed that the economic impact of recent floods should be taken into account during its upcoming review.

Massive floods across the country have struck both the rural heartland and industrial centres for the first time in decades, causing billions of dollars in damage while straining food supplies, exports and a fragile economic recovery.

Record monsoon rains since late June, amplified by dam releases from India, have submerged large swathes of Punjab and Sindh, the two most populous and economically vital provinces.

Over 1,000 people have been killed since June 26, the National Disaster Management Authority said, while over 2.5 million people have been evacuated in Punjab and Sindh.

The prime minister, in a meeting with IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, on the sidelines of the UNGA on Wednesday, appreciated the IMF's long-standing constructive partnership with Pakistan, which had further strengthened under the incumbent chief's leadership.

He acknowledged the IMF's timely support under various instruments, including the Stand-By Arrangement for $3 billion in FY 2024, followed by the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) of $7 billion.

"Today, with the institution of deep-rooted structural reforms, Pakistan's economy [is] showing positive signs of stabilisation and is now moving towards recovery," said PM Shehbaz and appreciated the IMF's support for being instrumental in guiding the government's economic reform efforts.

The IMF Managing Director expressed her sympathy to all people affected by the floods and noted the importance of the damage assessment to underpin recovery priorities.

The IMF chief commended the prime minister's commitment to pursuing sound macro-economic policies and reiterated the IMF's continued support as Pakistan advances the necessary economic reforms to ensure sustainable long-term economic growth.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Demands Kabul Crush Terror Safe Havens Once And For All



NEW YORK: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar on Wednesday called on the Afghan interim government to take concrete and verifiable measures to ensure their soil is not used for terrorism against neighbouring countries, particularly Pakistan.

Addressing the Inaugural Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Afghanistan, the deputy premier voiced Pakistan's grave concerns over the presence of more than two dozen terrorist groups operating inside Afghanistan.

He named groups including the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), Majeed Brigade, and East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), highlighting their active collaboration with Al-Qaeda and the serious threat they posed to regional and international peace and security.

The country has witnessed a surge in cross-border terror incidents since Taliban rulers returned to Afghanistan in 2021, particularly in the bordering provinces of KP and Balochistan.The two nations share a porous border spanning around 2,500 kilometres with several crossing points which hold significance as a key element of regional trade and relations between the people across both sides of the fence.However, the issue of terrorism remains a key issue for Pakistan, which has urged Afghanistan to prevent its soil from being used by groups such as the TTP to carry out attacks inside the former's territory.Islamabad's reservations have also been confirmed by a report submitted to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) by the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, which has revealed a nexus between Kabul and the TTP, with the former providing logistical, operational, and financial support to the latter."Our law enforcement officials and civilians continue to make enormous sacrifices due to terrorism emanating from Afghanistan. Earlier this month, 12 Pakistani soldiers were martyred while combating TTP infiltrators along our border," DPM Dar said while addressing the OIC contact group today. He further warned that terrorist organisations were increasingly exploiting digital platforms and social media for propaganda and incitement to violence. "This cannot be tolerated under any circumstances," he emphasised.Dar proposed the establishment of a working group comprising experts from OIC member states to develop a practical roadmap with reciprocal steps to address Afghanistan's pressing challenges.He reiterated Pakistan's commitment to supporting all efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan but stressed that this required "mutual respect, sincerity, and the political will of the Taliban authorities to help us help themselves."—RT/Agency

Macron Dares Trump: End Gaza War If You Want The Nobel



FRANCE: If US President Donald Trump really wants to win the Nobel Peace Prize, he needs to stop the war in Gaza, French President Emmanuel Macron said on Tuesday.

Speaking to France's BFM TV from New York, Macron said only Trump had the power to put pressure on Israel to end the war.

"There is one person who can do something about it, and that is the US president," Macron said. "And the reason he can do more than us, is because we do not supply weapons that allow the war in Gaza to be waged. We do not supply equipment that allows war to be waged in Gaza. The United States of America does."

Trump gave a combative, wide-ranging speech to the United Nations General Assembly on Tuesday that rejected moves by Western allies to endorse a Palestinian state, saying that would be a reward for Hamas militants.

"We have to stop the war in Gaza immediately. We have to immediately negotiate peace," Trump said.

Discussing Trump's speech, Macron said: "I see an American president who is involved, who reiterated this morning from the podium: 'I want peace. I have resolved seven conflicts', who wants the Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Peace Prize is only possible if you stop this conflict," Macron said.

Countries such as Cambodia, Israel and Pakistan are among those that have nominated Trump for the annual prize for brokering peace pacts or ceasefires.

Trump has said he deserves the Norwegian-bestowed accolade given to four of his White House predecessors.

President Trump has done more for peace than everyone present at the United Nations combined," said White House spokeswoman Anna Kelly.—RT/Agency

Israeli Media Admits Pak-Saudi Alliance Not Aimed At Hostility



The Jerusalem Post has published an opinion piece by Israeli researcher Yoel Guzansky analysing the defence pact between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, describing it as a declaration with more symbolic than operational weight.

The op-ed, titled "A complex reality: Saudi-Pakistani alliance is not a hostile pact against Israel', argues that while the agreement was widely perceived as a "Muslim version of Nato's Article 5", it largely builds on decades of existing ties between the two countries rather than marking a new strategic breakthrough, The News reported"The defence pact signed last week between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan rightly made headlines", Guzansky wrote. "Its central clause — stipulating that any attack on one will be considered an attack on both — was widely perceived as dramatic, almost a Muslim version of Nato's Article 5. Yet behind the declarative language lies a far more complex reality".According to the article, Pakistan has had a longstanding military presence in Saudi Arabia, with "between 1,500 and 2,000 Pakistani soldiers… stationed in the kingdom in training, advisory, and security roles". Guzansky noted that Pakistani troops have been deployed at times of crisis since the 1960s, making the current agreement "part of a long continuum of cooperation rather than a genuine turning point".

One of the most sensitive aspects, he argued, lies in the nuclear question. "Rumours of a Pakistani 'nuclear umbrella' for Saudi Arabia have circulated for years", Guzansky observed, adding that Riyadh's financial support for Islamabad's uranium enrichment programme has fueled such speculation. However, he stressed that "the agreement as published makes no reference to nuclear weapons", and Pakistan maintains that its arsenal is intended only as deterrence against India.Guzansky said the timing of the pact reflects Saudi anxieties amid heightened regional tensions, particularly after "Israel's rare strike in Qatar, a close American ally", and ongoing clashes between Israel and Iran."In an environment of perpetual regional warfare, Riyadh seeks to project that it is not isolated: behind it stands a large, powerful, and nuclear-armed Muslim ally", he wrote.

But he cautioned that the pact should not be mistaken for an unconditional guarantee. "Pakistan has previously drawn redlines vis-a-vis Riyadh — for example, its refusal in 2015 to join the Saudi-led war in Yemen".

Similarly, he said that Saudi Arabia is unlikely to intervene militarily in a potential Pakistan-India conflict. "Above all, this is a political declaration: a signal to adversaries, reassurance for domestic audiences, and a reminder to Washington that the Gulf is exploring alternative security options".The op-ed stressed that the alliance is underpinned not only by defence but also by "oil credits, financial aid, millions of Pakistani workers in the kingdom, and the binding framework of the Hajj".—RT/Agency

Sharif And Sri Lankan President Forge Stronger Ties On UNGA Sidelines



NEW YORK: Prime Ministe Shehbaz Sharif met Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on the sidelines of the 80th United Nations General Assembly, reaffirming the longstanding goodwill between Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

During the meeting, the two leaders discussed ways to further expand cooperation in diverse fields including trade, education, culture, and defense. Both sides emphasized the importance of maintaining high-level exchanges to deepen mutual understanding and partnership.

Focus on sports and people-to-people links

Highlighting the close bond between the people of both countries, the leaders agreed to enhance cooperation in sports — with a special focus on cricket, a sport cherished in both nations. They also expressed satisfaction with existing ties and vowed to build stronger cultural and educational linkages.

PM Shehbaz and the Sri Lankan President also exchanged views on regional and global developments.

Shehbaz Sharif appreciated Colombo's cooperation with Pakistan at international forums and reaffirmed Islamabad's commitment to supporting Sri Lanka in areas of shared interest.—RT/Agency

Shehbaz Set For High-Stakes White House Meeting With Mercurial Trump



NEW YORK: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's meeting with US President Donald Trump has been scheduled for tomorrow at the White House, with peace in Gaza at the heart of the discussions.

The prime minister will travel to Washington from New York today, accompanied by top Pakistani officials.

High-stakes meeting at White House

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and US President Donald Trump will hold formal talks tomorrow in Washington. The meeting comes after Sharif joined the most important gathering of Arab and Islamic leaders in New York, aimed at stopping what they described as the genocide of oppressed Palestinian citizens in Gaza.

Trump called the talks "very important", saying he wanted an end to the war and stressing the release of hostages.

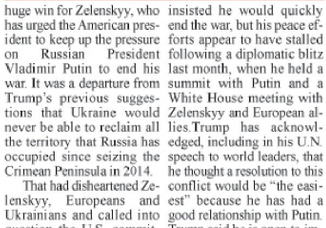
Shehbaz Sharif welcomes Trump's role

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif praised Trump's commitment to establishing peace, calling him "truly a champion of peace." He highlighted Trump's role in preventing a potentially devastating war between Pakistan and India.

Sharif, joined by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, stressed that a permanent solution between Palestinians and Israelis was only possible through negotiations.

Prior to the meeting, Prime Minister Sharif met with the emir of Qatar, King Abdullah of Jordan and the Indonesian president and talked about the situation in Gaza.—RT/Agency

Trump Shocks NATO By Claiming Ukraine Can Reclaim Every Inch Of Lost Land



UNITED NATIONS: President Donald Trump said Tuesday that he believed Ukraine could win back all territory lost to Russia, a dramatic shift from the U.S. leader's repeated calls for Kyiv to make concessions to end the war.

Trump posted on social media soon after meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly gathering of world leaders.

During a quick pull-aside meeting at the U.N. General Assembly, President Donald Trump emphasized his new position that Ukraine can win back all territory lost to Russia during a bilateral meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron.

"I think Ukraine, with the support of the European Union, is in a position to fight and WIN all of Ukraine back in its original form," Trump wrote. "With time, patience, and the financial support of Europe and, in particular, NATO, the original Borders from where this War started, is very much an option."

The strengthened support from Trump, if it sticks, is a huge win for Zelenskyy, who has urged the American president to keep up the pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin to end his war. It was a departure from Trump's previous suggestions that Ukraine would never be able to reclaim all the territory that Russia has occupied since seizing the Crimean Peninsula in 2014.

That had disheartened Zelenskyy, Europeans and Ukrainians and called into question the U.S. commitment to U.N. principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. But now, Trump's view of the battlefield coincides more with Ukraine's, Zelenskyy said."Trump is a game changer by himself," Zelenskyy told reporters after their meeting.Trump, going back to his 2024 campaign, insisted he would quickly end the war, but his peace efforts appear to have stalled following a diplomatic blitz last month, when he held a summit with Putin and a White House meeting with Zelenskyy and European allies.Trump has acknowledged, including in his U.N. speech to world leaders, that he thought a resolution to this conflict would be "the easiest" because he has had a good relationship with Putin. Trump said he is open to imposing more sanctions on Russia and urged Europe to join in."Russia has been fighting aimlessly for three and a half years a War that should have taken a Real Military Power less than a week to win," Trump wrote on social media.—RT/Agency

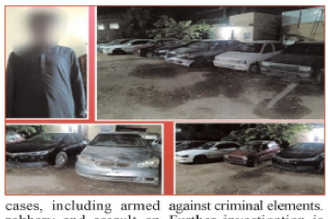
REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND



Hyderabad Police Smash Car Theft Gang, Recover 9 Hot Wheels

By Muqeem Keerio



HYDERABAD: A-Section Police Hyderabad, under the directives of SSP Adeel Hussain Chandio, cracked down on an inter-provincial car theft gang, arresting key suspect Muhammad Narejo and recovering 9 stolen cars from Hyderabad, Karachi, Nawabshah, and Multan. The arrest was made near Chungi Naka Autobhan, while an accomplice, Mumtaz Zardari, escaped. Narejo is wanted in multiple cases, including armed robbery and assault on police. The gang had been targeting citizens across districts. SSP Chandio assured continued action against criminal elements. Further investigation is underway to apprehend the absconders and uncover the full extent of the gang's network.

Sindh Employees Rage On as Pension Cuts Ignite Province-Wide Strike



SHAHDADKOT: On the second consecutive day, Sindh employees, responding to the Sindh Employees Alliance call, boycotted official duties and locked government offices to demand the reversal of pension cuts, payment of DRA allowance, and approval of their charter of demands. As a result, government work remained paralyzed, and thousands of children returned home without attending school. Hundreds of employees from 45 provincial departments, including education, health, revenue, and irrigation, criticized the provincial government for betraying its promises after coming to power. GSTA leaders vowed to continue protests until demands are met.—RT

SEF Teachers Rise Up Against Exploitation, Demand End to Contractor Rule

By Farooq Bugti

SANGHAR: Teachers working under the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) in Sanghar have voiced serious concerns over extremely low wages, receiving only Rs 8,000 to 10,000 monthly through a contractor system. This is despite the government's fixed minimum wage of Rs 40,000. Teachers allege that raising concerns leads to threats of job termination, forcing many to remain silent. They claim contractors are making huge profits, running multiple schools under different names, and misusing funds. Several SEF schools are also illegally operating near government schools, violating policy. Teachers appealed to the Education Minister for justice, demanding fair salaries and an immediate end to the exploitative contractor system to ensure transparency, accountability, and better quality of education in the province.

Matiari DC Races to Embankments, Vows Safety Amid Surging River Threat

By Sajjad Ali Abbasi



MATIARI: Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Yousif Sheikh visited the 49-mile SM embankment along the Indus River from Saeedabad to Chhandan and directed strict monitoring and immediate action on any seepage. Irrigation Department's Pir Salahuddin briefed him on reinforcement work, including stone pitching and T spur strengthening. With 400,000 cusecs of water currently flowing, the DC assured there's no threat to the embankments. He dismissed rumors of risk and confirmed illegal riverbed settlements have been cleared. The district administration has set up 12 relief camps, with 110 more identified as precaution, although none are yet occupied. The DC emphasized full preparedness and urged coordination among departments to ensure public safety.

Principal Cracks Down on Encroachments Outside Digri Girls School

By Farooq Randhawa



DIGRI: Government Girls Higher Secondary School Principal Zarina Kalhoro has taken strict measures to clear street encroachments caused by vendors' carts outside the school in Digri. She summoned the vendors and instructed them to keep the lane clear during school hours to prevent difficulties for female students and staff, especially during arrival, dismissal, and exams. The principal reminded that a complaint was filed with the Assistant Commissioner in 2020, but no action was taken. Vendors denied paying any fees and agreed to avoid parking carts during school hours to ensure student safety and smooth access. The initiative aims to provide a safer environment for the students.

Dowry Turns Deadly as Woman Slain, Family Cries Out for Justice

By Abdullah Shahani

PHULJI STATION: In Phulji Station's Shifanabad neighborhood, Robina Solangi, a mother of four, was allegedly subjected to severe violence by her husband's family member, Gul Hassan Solangi, leading to her death. Her unborn child also died as a result. The victim's family has approached the Phulji police station to file a murder case. The victim's husband, Dilbar Solangi, has been taken into custody, while the main accused, Gul Hassan Solangi, is absconding. Police have sent the body for a post-mortem and will register the case upon receiving the medical report. The bereaved family is demanding justice for the tragic incident.

Healthcare Workers Defy Govt in Shahdadpur with Relentless Protest



By Sajan Jani

SHAHDADPUR: On the call of Sindh Employees Alliance, health department staff at Shahdadpur Civil Hospital continued their protest for the second day, wearing black armbands, boycotting OPD services, and holding a rally with banners. Protesters criticized the Sindh government for halting pensions, denying service structure and DRA allowance. Employees from other departments also warned of expanding protests if demands are not fulfilled.

Government Offices Locked Down as Employees Revolt Against Cuts

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Across Badin, government employees staged a major protest against pension cuts, lack of service structure restoration, denial of insurance benefits, and salary increments. Schools, hospitals, and offices were locked as employees observed a complete boycott. Teaching and medical activities were suspended. Revenue employees and GSTA-led teachers held hunger strikes and rallies from DC Office to DC Chowk. Protesters demanded legal protection, restoration of magistrate powers, and strict action against those attacking officials. Teachers, health workers, and clerks vowed to continue protests until demands are met.

Sindh Employees Alliance Shakes Tando Allahyar with Protest Power



By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: Sindh Employees Alliance continued their protest for the second day, shutting down offices and schools in Tando Allahyar. Employees wore black armbands and raised slogans demanding reversal of pension cuts, DRA, and group insurance approval. Leaders warned protests will persist until demands are met. Government offices, schools, and departments across Tando Allahyar subdivisions remain closed amid the strike.

Pathan Goth Residents Lash Out at HESCO Over Transformer Crisis



By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Residents of Pathan Goth Giddu Nako, along with women and children, held a sit-in outside the HESCO Chief Office in Hussainabad, demanding replacement of a burnt electricity transformer that has been out of service for four months. Protest leaders accused corrupt HESCO officials of appointing private individuals who demand bribes and cut electricity connections for non-payment. Despite promises from HESCO, power remains off. Protesters vowed to continue until restoration, while HESCO warned of possible Rangers' intervention if the sit-in persists.

Court Slaps Thatta Police with FIR Over Illegal Detention

By Sajid Ali Janyaro

KETI BANDAR: The Second Additional Sessions Judge Thatta has ordered an FIR against SHO Ghorabari Hameed Rodnani, ASI Farman Bhutto, and another officer for unlawfully detaining Noor Hassan Khushk and Munawar Khushk and extorting Rs. 50,000. The order followed a raid by First Civil Judge Thatta, who recovered Noor Hassan from illegal custody. The case was filed by Shabbir Ahmed Khushk through Advocate Mansoor Turk. The court also fined the SHO Rs. 30,000, emphasizing accountability for abuse of power and illegal confinement.

Tribute Ceremony Honors Legacy of Late Dr. Muhammad Pandhi

By Muhammad Bachal



UMERKOT: A solemn memorial ceremony was held in Dhallo Jo Tar village to honor the late Dr. Muhammad Pandhi, attended by notable guests including Provincial Minister Syed Sardar Ali Shah, MPA Syed Ameer Ali Shah, religious leaders, educators, and community figures. Professor Abdul Razaq Bhutto highlighted Dr. Pandhi's lifelong dedication to medicine, education, and social services, treating thousands of patients from remote areas at his own expense. Minister Sardar Ali Shah praised him as a selfless servant of humanity. Dr. Pandhi's legacy now passes to his son, Engineer Gul Hassan, entrusted to continue serving the community responsibly. The event concluded with prayers by Maulvi Haji Abdur Rahman Sangrasi.

Shazia Marri Unveils New Building for Jam Nawaz Ali Press Club

By Hakim Baloch



JAM NAWAZ ALI: Pakistan Peoples Party's Central Information Secretary and MNA Shazia Atta Marri, during her visit to Jam Nawaz Ali Press Club, announced the construction of a new building for the club and termed it her "home." She praised journalists for their sacrifices in the pursuit of truth and condemned the attack on journalist Imtiaz Mir. Addressing the media, she highlighted the devastating impact of climate change, especially in Punjab and KP, where floods have displaced thousands. Marri emphasized support for farmers to restore agricultural land and ensure wheat production. She defended the Benazir Income Support Programme as a vital economic aid, not charity, and criticized the government's U-turn on IMF policies.

Seminar Underscores Sindh's Pledge to Inclusive Resettlement Policy

By Narain Das

MIRPURKHAS: Addressing a seminar on the Sindh Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy 2023, Additional Commissioner Subhash Chander stressed the need for environmentally and socially conscious policies to improve settlement and human life. Organized by SRPO, the event featured voices from civil society and officials, including Zahida Datho and Nazir Ahmed Memon, who highlighted the policy's role in sustainable rehabilitation and development projects. Emphasis was placed on rural development, modern technology, and effective water management through Nara Canal. Participants urged holistic planning. The seminar saw wide representation from government departments, civil society, and media, reflecting strong community engagement.

Karim Bux Golo Village Erupts in Protest Demanding Basic Rights

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: Residents of Karim Bux Golo village near Thul staged a protest and sit-in outside the Thul Press Club, demanding the provision of basic facilities, including gas supply, proper roads, and a functioning drainage system. The protest, led by the village youth committee, saw strong slogans raised against corrupt contractors, particularly Hakim Dayo, for abandoning a 2017-approved drainage scheme mid-way. Villagers, including Raja Karim Bux Golo, Saeed Ahmed Golo, and others, said stagnant sewage causes daily distress, and incomplete water supply schemes add to their woes. They also pointed out that although a gas pipeline is just 100 feet away, the village still lacks access to gas. Protesters warned of expanding their demonstrations if issues remain unresolved.

Matiari Police Reunite Two Lost Children with Tearful Families

By Sajjad Ali Abbasi



MATIARI: In a commendable act of responsibility and humanity, Matiari Police safely reunited two lost children with their families. The children, Rehan (son of Anwar Rajput) and Meerab (daughter of Waseem Akram Malik), residents of Mehrabpur, District Naushahro Feroze, had lost their way after disembarking from a train in the Palejani area under the jurisdiction of Shahpur Police Station. While on patrol, Shahpur Police found the children in an abandoned state. Acting on SSP Matiari Muhammad Arif Aslam Rao's instructions, SHO Shahpur Habibullah Soho contacted the children's families and called them to the station. Upon verification, the children were safely handed over. The families expressed heartfelt gratitude to the police for their timely and humane efforts.

Nawab Solangi School Hosts Spiritual Milad Program

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: A vibrant Milad Program was organized at Government Boys Primary School Nawab Solangi, featuring engaging segments such as tableau performances and a speech competition that allowed students to display their talents and improve their public speaking skills. Prizes were distributed to acknowledge the achievements of outstanding students. The event was honored by the presence of DEO Primary Ayaz Hussain Mahesar and TEO Primary Male Kotdiji Mohammad Juman Mehrani, whose attendance added significance to the occasion and reinforced the importance of celebrating students' academic and extracurricular accomplishments.

REGIONAL TIMES
NATIONAL

CM Maryam Hails CCD for Turning Punjab into a Zero-Crime Province



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has praised the Crime Control Department (CCD) for maintaining peace and law and order across the province, calling it an unprecedented achievement in Punjab's history.

Speaking at the passing-out parade of the Punjab Enforcement and Regulatory Authority (PERA) in Lahore, Maryam Nawaz highlighted that Punjab is the first province to introduce a new model of governance. She also announced that a new law will soon be introduced to combat land grabbing across the province.

Maryam Nawaz emphasized that the removal of encroachments from busy markets has not only boosted local businesses but also improved public convenience. She encouraged the newly trained PERA officers to remain committed to serving the public.

She further commended the police for their outstanding performance in reducing crime rates, attributing the success to their tireless efforts and commitment. "The peace established by the Crime Control Department is unparalleled in history. I salute the entire police department for their efforts," she stated. "Punjab is now a zero-crime province." Maryam Nawaz pointed out that many districts, which once reported over 100 crimes daily, now report zero crimes, with some days passing without any criminal activity. "People can now leave their homes peacefully," she said. She also made it clear that crimes against women will not be tolerated, adding that anyone who disrespects women will face severe consequences.—RT/Agency

China Marks 76th National Day, Vows Deeper Strategic Bond with Pakistan



LAHORE: The Consulate General of China in Lahore celebrated the 76th National Day of the People's Republic of China with a grand reception at Pearl Continental Hotel. Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan attended as chief guest, along with ministers, diplomats, and senior officials.

In his address, Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren highlighted China's economic and technological achievements, noting that the country now contributes nearly 30% to global growth.

He underlined advances in clean energy, healthcare, and education, describing them as "landmark achievements" benefiting both China and the world.

Expressing solidarity with flood-affected communities in Pakistan, Zhao assured continued Chinese support in relief and rehabilitation. —RT/Agency

Rawalpindi Police Rescue Abducted Girl in Swift, High-Pressure Operation

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi police on Wednesday successfully recovered a seven-year-old girl who had been kidnapped from outside a private hospital near Chandni Chowk, ARY News reported.

The girl was abducted after a masked kidnapper tricked her grandfather by engaging him in conversation and sending him to a nearby medical store, leaving her unattended. While the grandfather was away, the kidnapper fled with the child.

Taking notice of the incident, the Rawalpindi City Police Officer (CPO) directed immediate measures for the girl's safe recovery. Following his directives, special teams were formed to track down the kidnapper and recover the girl.

The police immediately implemented a coordinated strategy that involved snap checks and intensive monitoring of the city's inner and outer roads. The investigation also included reviewing footage from hundreds of CCTV cameras, including those from the Safe City project, to track the kidnapper's movements.

Due to the effective monitoring and prompt response, the kidnapper abandoned the girl and fled the scene, police said in a statement on social media.—RT/Agency

PTA Issues Red Alert on Exploding Cases of Online Fraud Across Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has alerted the masses over rising online fraud across the country.

The PTA in an advisory, cautioned citizens about people doing online fraud by luring them with a prize money win.

"Online fraudsters may ask you to click on a suspicious link to win a prize, or they can commit fraud by asking for your banking details online."

The PTA urging people to remain caution and safe has directed them to file their complaints regarding suspicious calls or message at the authority website by click this link http://complaint.pta.gov.pk/RegisterComplaint.aspx or at PTA mobile app.

Furthermore, people have been directed to contact National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency's helpline 1799 in case of any fraud.—RT/Agency

KP Demands Federal Government Rethink 'War on Terror' Strategy

PESHAWAR: Advisor to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government on Information, Barrister Dr. Saif, on Wednesday, called on the federal government to review its policy regarding the war on terror.

In a statement, Barrister Saif emphasized that KP Chief Minister, Ali Amin Gandapur, is taking serious steps towards eliminating terrorism and ensuring peace and security. He highlighted that tribal jirgas (councils) had been convened at the Chief Minister's House in this regard.

Barrister Saif further stated that the federal government should support Ali Amin Gandapur's efforts in establishing peace and security. He accused the federal government of undermining the KP CM's sincere initiatives for political reasons.

He strongly urged the federal government to revisit its policy on the war on terror, stressing that dialogue with Afghanistan is essential to effectively combat terrorism.

Last week, Barrister Saif said that the PTI founder has no objection over action against militants in the province.

In an exclusive interview with media, Barrister Saif confirmed that no military operation is currently being carried out in the province.—RT/Agency

Court Overturns Travel Ban on Akhtar Mengal, Calls Order Illegal

QUETTA: The Balochistan High Court (BHC) on Wednesday declared travel ban on BNP President Sardar Akhtar Mengal as unlawful.

A high court bench comprises of Chief Justice Rozi Khan Barech and Justice Sardar Ahmed Halimi heard a constitutional petition challenging the authorities' decision to place Balochistan National Party (BNP) chief Akhtar Mengal's name on the Provisional National Identification List (PNIL).

The bench directed the authorities to remove the name of Akhtar Mengal from the PNIL and ordered federal government to lift travel ban forthwith.

Sardar Akhtar Mengal had filed a petition in the BHC against the government's decision to place his name on the PNIL, a temporary travel restriction.

Mengal was prevented at the Quetta airport from boarding a flight to Dubai in July, citing his inclusion on the no-fly list.—RT/Agency

PTI Firebrand Falak Javed Arrested in Sweeping Cybercrime Crackdown

LAHORE: PTI leader Falak Javed has been arrested by the National Cybercrime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) from Lahore's Ichhra area. According to officials, she was wanted in two cases — one for allegedly spreading propaganda against state institutions, and another for using offensive language against a female politician. The arrest marks a fresh move in the tightening clampdown on political figures over digital misconduct and online speech. NCCIA confirmed she had been under investigation for some time.—RT/Agency

Council of Islamic Ideology yet to decide on withholding tax as per Sharia law

LAHORE: Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) has yet to decide on withholding tax as per the Islamic law, its chief Allama Dr Muhammad Raghib Hussain Naeemi said on Wednesday.

His clarification came shortly after a press release by the CII declared withholding tax on money transfers and withdrawals to be against Sharia (Islamic law).

Talking to Geo News, the CII chairman said the note-taking staff misunderstood that withholding tax had been declared un-Islamic. He said that the CII would discuss matters related to the withholding tax in its next meeting."Several members of the council were against the withholding tax," Dr Naeemi added.He said: "They left the meeting when food was served and the staff thought that withholding tax was declared against Sharia."—RT/Agency

Nation Breathes Sigh of Relief as Flood Threat Officially Declared Over



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Water Resources Moeen Wattoo has said that the flood threat across the country has ended and conditions are improving.

In a statement, Wattoo said that federal and provincial governments are jointly working on rehabilitation efforts.

Restoration of infrastructure in flood-affected areas is the top priority, while measures are also underway to compensate for damage to agricultural land and crops.

He added that transparency and speed will be ensured in the rehabilitation process. Local administrations and the government will work together to restore facilities in the affected areas, while efforts are ongoing to develop an effective flood management system to minimize future losses.—RT/Agency

METRO KARACHI

Saeed Ghani Vows Swift Justice for Attack on Imtiaz Mir



KARACHI: Sindh Minister Saeed Ghani vowed to bring the attackers of TV anchor Imtiaz Mir to justice. Speaking at a local hospital where Mir is under intensive care, Ghani assured the journalist's family of full medical support and a thorough investigation. He promised to personally intervene with the police to ensure the correct FIR is filed, addressing concerns over police negligence. Ghani also confirmed both the Sindh CM and Home Minister are focused on arresting the culprits swiftly.—RT

PPP's Lyari Stronghold in Chaos as Chairman Faces No-Confidence Amid Mega Corruption Scandal

KARACHI: In Karachi's Lyari Town, 14 of 22 municipal members have filed a no-confidence motion against PPP's Chairman Nasir Karim, accusing him of massive corruption and misuse of funds. The motion, led by Vice Chairman Iqbal Hingoro, claims no development work was done in two years, while millions were embezzled. Allegedly, 160 sanitation workers were outsourced illegally, costing Rs. 3.4–3.5 million monthly. Both the chairman and vice chairman belong to the Pakistan Peoples Party.—RT

Transgender Community Erupts in Protest Over Barbaric Karachi Killings

KARACHI: A protest was held outside the Karachi Press Club by the transgender community and civil society, demanding the immediate arrest of the killers of three transgender persons recently murdered on the Super Highway. Activist Bindya Rana condemned the ongoing targeted killings, saying similar protests are taking place in Hyderabad and Sukkur. She highlighted rising unemployment, lack of government jobs, and discrimination forcing many to beg. She also criticized propaganda against trans people, which worsens their plight.—RT

Punjab Info Minister Taunts PPP: Sindh Deserves a CM Like Maryam



Punjab Information Minister Uzma Bukhari hit back at the PPP leaders' press conference, saying even the people of Sindh wish they had a Chief Minister like Maryam Nawaz.

She questioned PPP's presence in Punjab, asking, "When will they actually stand up for Punjab?" Accusing PPP of sabotaging progress, Bukhari alleged they want Punjab's people to be deprived of wheat, flour, and basic food. She called the PPP's entire press conference nothing but political theatrics with no real substance.—RT

Sohrab Goth Turns Battlefield as Police Gun Down and Capture Armed Robbers



KARACHI: Karachi's Shaheen Force, acting on orders from DIG East Zone Dr. Farukh Ali, launched a bold operation against armed robbers in Sohrab Goth's Super Market area. When officers signaled the suspects to stop, they opened fire, triggering a fierce shootout. Both suspects—War Jan and Sohrab alias Mustafa—were injured and arrested. Police seized a 9mm pistol, ammunition, five stolen phones, and a motorcycle (KFT-4301). —RT

Central Punjab

RUJ Pakistan Central Executive Committee Convenes in Lahore

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: The Central Executive Committee (CEC) of the Regional Union of Journalists (RUJ) Pakistan is set to hold its important meeting in Lahore on Thursday, September 25. The session will take place in Garden Town, Lahore, chaired by RUJ Pakistan's Central President, Syed Shafqat Hussain Gilani. Members from across the country are expected to participate, with key organizational matters and decisions on the agenda.

Toba Tek Singh Launches Crackdown on Profiteers Under CM Maryam's Orders

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: Following directives from Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the district administration has intensified its crackdown on profiteers to ensure the steady availability of essential commodities. An emergency meeting chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner Zeeshan Lubha Masih reviewed the performance of price control magistrates, who conducted nearly 50,000 inspections last week and fined profiteers Rs 64,000. Officials emphasized active field inspections, strict monitoring of food prices, and a zero-tolerance policy against illegal profiteering to provide maximum relief to the public.

Lightning Pace in "Apni Chhat Apna Ghar" Housing Drive as Toba Tek Singh Pushes Ahead

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the "Apni Chhat Apna Ghar" project is progressing swiftly in Toba Tek Singh. So far, 202 houses have been completed for low-income families, with work ongoing on remaining units. Over Rs 950.7 million in interest-free loans have been distributed among 1,247 beneficiaries to help them own homes.

The REGIONAL TIMES

EDITORIAL

Founders: Late Kazi Saeed Akbar, Late Kazi Jawad Akbar, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher: Kazi Sajjad Akbar

Thursday, September 25, 2025

Silent Screams, Deaf State: Pakistan Must Act Now to Protect Its Children

The shocking recovery of 18 children from a so-called orphanage in Chichawatni is not just another isolated case of brutality—it is a mirror reflecting the horrifying reality that Pakistan's children live with every single day. These innocent souls, many under ten years old, were allegedly beaten, tortured, and dehumanized in an unregistered "welfare" institution, while their tormentors operated freely under the nose of a sleeping system.

How many more viral videos will it take before the State wakes up? How many more Shahzads must endure beatings before Pakistan admits that child abuse is not the exception—it is the rule in a country where over 3,350 cases were reported just last year, and countless more remain buried in silence?

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This culture of impunity thrives because laws are weak, enforcement is weaker, and society remains complicit in its silence. Unregistered orphanages, seminaries, and private institutions exploit children with little oversight. Police action often comes only when social media erupts. This is not justice—it is reactionary firefighting.

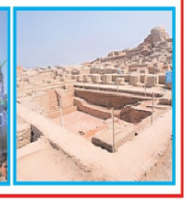
The time for half-measures is over. Pakistan must enact airtight legislation ensuring that every orphanage, madrassa, and childcare facility is registered, monitored, and held accountable. Paedophiles and abusers must face swift and exemplary punishment—no loopholes, no leniency. Public awareness campaigns must shatter the taboos that force victims into silence, while Child Protection Bureaus must be empowered with funds, authority, and reach across every district.

A nation that cannot protect its children has no future. Pakistan must decide today: will it remain a land where predators prey with impunity, or will it finally rise to defend its most vulnerable citizens? The cries of these children are not whispers—they are screams. The State must listen, act, and deliver justice—now.

The REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND



Bilawal Offers Condolences in Sanjar Junejo Village

By Sajan Jani Detho



SHAHDADPUR: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari visited village Sanjar Junejo in Taluka Tando Adam to offer condolences on the passing of veteran PPP leader and former MNA Roshanuddin Junejo. He expressed sympathy to the late leader's sons, MNA Salahuddin Junejo and Ghiyasuddin Junejo, as well as to his brothers Noor Muhammad Junejo, Muhammad Khan Junejo, and nephew Jahangir Junejo, the party's District General Secretary. Chairman Bilawal offered Fateha for the departed soul and prayed for patience for the grieving family. He was accompanied by former Senator Imamuddin Shouqeen, MNA Shazia Marri, Agriculture Minister Muhammad Bux Khan Mahar, MPAs Imdad Pitafi, Jam Shabbir Ali, and others. PPP Divisional General Secretary (Shaheed Benazirabad) Javed Nayab Laghari also joined the delegation in offering condolences to the bereaved family.

Govt Employees Ramp Up Protests Against Pension Reforms and DRA Cuts

By Hashim Brohi



JACOBABAD: On the call of the All Sindh Employees Alliance, various unions staged a strong protest in Jacobabad by shutting down offices, schools, and colleges. Demonstrators held a sit-in at DC Chowk, joined by Chamber of Commerce President Mir Ahmed Ali Brohi, Nadeem Qureshi, and leaders from political and social organizations. GSTA District President Naseebullah Khan Khoso, APCA President Nasrullah Domki, PTA District President Abdul Jabbar Khoso, PMA President Dr. Abdul Ghaffar Rind, and others demanded the immediate reversal of the "unjust" pension reforms. They also urged the Sindh Government to approve DRA allowance, group insurance, and all rightful employee benefits without delay.

Kandhkot Road Tragedy Claims Four Lives in Brutal Collision

By Adnan Bhatti

KANDHKOT: A tragic road accident occurred near Malir Stop on Indus Highway, where a trailer collided with a loader rickshaw, resulting in the death of four individuals, including two women and a child. Two others sustained serious injuries and were shifted to Civil Hospital Kandhkot. According to sources, the victims belonged to the same family of the Bhangwar community. The trawler ran over the rickshaw. Police have taken the trawler into custody while the driver fled the scene.

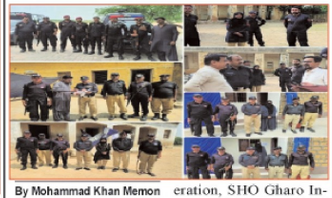
Sindhi Adabi Sangat Qasimabad Keeps Literary Flame Alive

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: The Sindhi Adabi Sangat Qasimabad branch held a literary gathering chaired by Ehsan Miral at Zeeshan Center, Qasimabad. Poets and writers presented ghazals, nazms, and essays, receiving praise for their contributions to Sindhi literature. Members appreciated the branch's active role and Secretary Shafiq Chandio's hospitality. The meeting highlighted the importance of resistance poetry and strong prose to address contemporary issues and enrich Sindhi literary heritage.

Thatta Police Nab Motorcycle Thief, Recover Stash of Stolen Bikes

By Mohammad Khan Memon



THATTA: Thatta police, under the directives of IGP Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon, DIGP Hyderabad Range Tariq Razzaq Dharejo, and SSP Thatta Farooq Ahmed, have intensified efforts against criminal elements. On September 19, 2025, a motorcycle was stolen from Ghulam Rasool Babro in Gulzar Madina Babra, leading to an FIR registered at Ghāro Police Station. Following a prompt operation, SHO Gharo Inspector Muhammad Ali and his team arrested Azizullah, a key suspect from Karachi's Malir District, while two accomplices fled. The stolen motorcycle and another vehicle used in crimes were recovered. Further searches, based on suspect information, led to the recovery of five more stolen bikes from Karachi and Thatta. The suspect confessed to multiple thefts and is in police remand as investigations continue.

Clan Feud Near Thatta Turns Deadly, One Killed and Seven Injured

By Mohammad Khan Memon

THATTA: A deadly clash between two factions of the Jakhra clan in Bachal Jakhro village near Jhimpir left one man dead and seven others injured. The violence erupted due to a long-standing feud, reportedly over a marital alliance, and escalated further amid kidnapping allegations. The deceased, Muhammad Khan (son of Sain Dino Jakhro), was taken to Jhirk Hospital for postmortem. Injured individuals, including Ali Hassan, Khair Muhammad, Mashooq, and Gamshad Jakhro, are receiving treatment. DSP Wajid Thaheem and SHO Aslam Gugo led a police team to control the situation. Additional forces have been deployed as investigations continue.

SSP Hyderabad Tightens Security Ahead of By-Election Polls

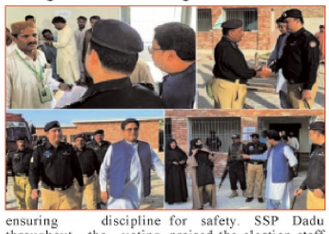
By Muqeem Keerio



HYDERABAD: SSP Adeel Hussain Chandio conducted inspections of multiple polling stations during today's by-elections in Hyderabad. He reviewed security arrangements as heavy police contingents were deployed to maintain law and order. SSP Chandio assured voters are casting their votes peacefully and emphasized strict instructions to ensure the electoral process remains transparent and peaceful throughout the day.

Dadu By-Elections Wrap Up Peacefully Under Heavy Security

By Javed Laghari



DADU: The by-elections for vacant seats in Union Councils 43 Pir Shahnawaz and 64 Dargah Bala concluded peacefully in Dadu, with voters casting their ballots in a secure and orderly environment. SSP Dadu Captain (Retd) Ameer Saud Magsi and Deputy Commissioner Syed Murtaza Ali Shah visited multiple polling stations to review the arrangements. Strict security measures were implemented by Dadu Police, ensuring discipline throughout the voting process. Vote counting is currently underway with police presence maintained for safety. SSP Dadu praised the election staff and instructed officers to stay alert until the ballot boxes are safely returned.

Jeo Chhuta XI Clinch Jashn-e-Azadi Cricket Glory in Maqsoodo Rind

By Ayaz Latif Rind



MAQSOODO RIND: The three-month-long Jashn-e-Azadi Cricket Tournament, organized by Regional Cricket Chairman Haji Rahib Ali Rind, concluded with Jeo Chhuta XI defeating Baajhi Rind XI in a close final match. Jeo Chhato XI chased down 65 runs to secure the victory. The winning team received Rs. 100,000 and a trophy from former PPP Senator Malik Imamudin Shouqeen, while the runners-up were awarded Rs 20,000 and a trophy. Ahsan Chhuto was named Man of the Match and Man of the Series, and Zaheer Hussain Rind was declared Best Bowler. The event was attended by prominent political and social leaders, celebrating local sportsmanship and community spirit.

Sujawal Shuts Down as Pension Reform Protests Sweep Streets

By Kamran Hidayat



SUJAWAL: On the second consecutive day of protest called by the Sindh Employees Alliance, government schools, colleges, hospitals, and various offices across Sujawal district remained completely shut. Offices and schools were locked down as employees opposed the government's new pension reform law, demanding the provision of DRA allowance like other provinces. Due to staff boycott at Sujawal Civil Hospital, patients faced severe difficulties, while the suspension of academic activities in schools has raised concerns among parents. The strike and protest will continue with a sit-in scheduled on October 6 at Bilawal House Karachi.

Hyderabad Transgenders March in Fury Over Colleagues' Killing in Karachi

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: Transgenders of Hyderabad, led by Sana and others, held a protest outside Hyderabad Press Club condemning the recent killing of three innocent Kharadar fakirs in Karachi. They criticized the ongoing injustices and violence against Kharadar fakirs, highlighting their lack of ownership and legal rights. The protesters demanded the immediate arrest of the killers and protection for the vulnerable community.

REGIONAL TIMES
SPORTS



India Demolishes Bangladesh to Storm into Asia Cup 2025 Final, Sri Lanka Sent Packing



India sealed a commanding victory over Bangladesh in the Super Fours clash at Dubai International Cricket Stadium, securing a place in the Asia Cup 2025 final and eliminating Sri Lanka from the tournament.Batting first, India posted 168/6, powered by Abhishek Sharma's blazing 75 off 37 balls. Bangladesh faltered in response, bowled out for 127 in 19.3 overs, despite a valiant 69 from Saif Hassan.Kuldeep Yadav's 3/18 led India's disciplined bowling attack, with strong support from Bumrah and Chakravarthy.—Agency

Djokovic Plots Shanghai Masters Return After US Open Heartbreak

SHANGHAI: Former world number one Novak Djokovic will return to action at the Shanghai Masters next month, following his semifinal defeat to Carlos Alcaraz at the US Open, tournament organisers confirmed.

The ATP Masters 1000 event will take place from October 1 to October 12, with Djokovic making his 14th main-draw appearance.

The Serbian star has lifted the trophy four times in Shanghai but has not added a Grand Slam title to his tally this year, with current world number one Carlos Alcaraz and number two Jannik Sinner dominating the majors.

The 24-time Grand Slam champion has found it increasingly difficult in recent seasons to overcome the new generation at the top of men's tennis.

Organisers welcomed him back with a social media post that read: "He's back. Our four-time champ, @DjokerNole, will return to Shanghai this year."

Djokovic admitted after his US Open exit that he feels better equipped in best-of-three set formats, such as the Shanghai Masters, compared to the longer Grand Slam battles.

Last year, the 38-year-old reached the final in Shanghai but was beaten in straight sets by Sinner.

This year's edition promises a star-studded field, with Alexander Zverev, Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, Taylor Fritz, Casper Ruud and Stefanos Tsitsipas all confirmed to compete.—Agency

Shaheen Sparks Buzz as He Forgets Bangladesh's Team Nickname Ahead of Super Four



DUBAI: Pakistan's left-arm pacer Shaheen Afridi created a lighthearted moment on Wednesday when he appeared to forget Bangladesh's nickname ahead of their Super Four clash in the ACC Men's T20 Asia Cup 2025 at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

During the pre-match conference, Shaheen was asked about the team combination for Pakistan's match against Bangladesh, referring to the team by their nickname, the "Tigers."

The pacer replied sarcastically, "Tigers who?" He then laughed and added, "I'll ask the head coach—sorry, I don't know."

When questioned about the intense attention from fans whenever India and Pakistan face each other, the 25-year-old pacer responded casually, "don't watch."

Shaheen also highlighted Pakistan's approach and mindset for the match, stressing the importance of a strong start, consistency throughout the game, and focusing fully on each challenge.

"Bangladesh is a good team and has been playing quite well recently. Obviously, whenever we play matches against such teams, we need to deliver the first punch ourselves and not give them any opportunity," he said.

"Yes, we have to play good cricket at all three stages, and after that, there's the next game. Our focus is on the Bangladesh game and how to approach it," he added.—Agency

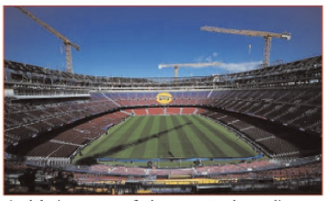
Face of the Day



Name: Ahmed Raza
About Me: I'm a Karachi Gamer Who's Obsessed With Video Games!

Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com

Camp Nou Comeback Dreams Crushed for Barcelona



Barcelona City Council (BCC) has refused to grant a permit for Sunday's La Liga match against Real Sociedad, citing safety and security concerns with the revamped Camp Nou.

Barcelona had hoped to return to a reduced-capacity Camp Nou with 27,000 spectators, but have failed to secure the necessary permits from the council.

Instead, the match will be played at the Lluis Companys Olympic Stadium in Montjuic, which holds 55,000 seating capacity and served as Barca's home ground during the 2023-24 and 2024-25 seasons.

Former Chief Judge David B. Sentelle emphasised the importance of addressing safety concerns for spectators.

"We have spotted different elements that need to be fixed and have an impact in the safety and security of the stadium," Sentelle said.

"Some of those elements are in the access routes to the stadium, to ensure all the fans can attend at the stadium."

Barcelona has already staged two home matches this season against Valencia and Getafe at the Johan Cruyff Stadium, which seats just 6,000 and usually hosts the women's team.

The city's fire department also flagged problems with evacuation routes, among other safety issues.

However, Barca's operations director Joan Sentelles insisted that although the stadium is unfinished, it doesn't mean it is not safe. "Just because it's not finished, doesn't mean it's not safe," he said. Work on the stadium began in 2023 for £1.1bn, aiming to modernise the Camp Nou and expand its capacity to 105,000, making it one of the largest stadiums in the world. The club originally hoped to return in November 2024 to commemorate its 125th anniversary, but that target has long since passed.—Agency

Salman Agha and Officials Extend Heartfelt Support to Dunith Wellalage in Grief



ABU DHABI: Pakistan captain Salman Ali Agha, along with white-ball head coach Mike Hesson, Chief Operating Manager Sumair Ahmed Syed, PCB advisor Salman Naseer, and team manager Naveed Akram Cheema, offered condolences to Sri Lankan spinner Dunith Wellalage following the death of his father.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) shared a video on its official social media accounts showing the team management and captain consoling the 22-year-old spinner during this difficult time.

Wellalage received the heartbreaking news shortly after Sri Lanka's six-wicket win over Afghanistan in their Asia Cup 2025 Group B clash at the Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi, a victory that secured their place in the Super Four stage.

His father, Suranga Wellalage, passed away from a heart attack while the young cricketer was on national duty.

In an emotional Instagram post, Wellalage expressed his grief while extending heartfelt gratitude to those who supported him and his family.

"I want to take a moment to sincerely thank everyone who stood by me and my family during the most painful time of my life, after the passing of my beloved father. Losing him has left a void that can never be filled, but the love, strength, and support I received gave me the courage to keep moving forward," he wrote.

The spinner specifically thanked Sri Lanka Cricket, his sponsors, law enforcement authorities, medical staff, former schools, and cricket clubs for their support.

"My heartfelt gratitude goes to the Sri Lanka Cricket Board, CDB Bank, Munchee, Moratuwa Police, Panadura Hospital, Colts Cricket Club, St. Sebastian College, St. Joseph's College, and Prince of Wales' College Old Boys' Association for being there for me and my family," he said.

Wellalage also acknowledged the guidance of former players, coaches, and teammates, including Sanath Jayasuriya, Mahinda Halangoda, Charith Asalanka, and the entire national squad.

"A special thank you to Sanath Sir, Mahinda Halangoda Sir, and the entire national coaching staff, as well as Charith Aiya and my brothers in the Sri Lanka National Team. Your presence, kindness, and guidance meant more to me than words can ever express," he added.

Finally, he reserved his deepest gratitude for the people of Sri Lanka, whose prayers and messages gave him strength during this tragedy.

"Most importantly, I want to thank the people of Sri Lanka. Your prayers, messages, and unconditional support reminded me that I am never alone," he said.

Concluding his note, the young all-rounder vowed to honor his father's dream by continuing to pursue his cricketing journey.—Agency

Mbappe Magic Fires Real Madrid to Dominate Levante



VALENCIA: French striker Kylian Mbappe scored a second-half brace as Real Madrid cruised to a commanding 4-1 victory over Levante in LaLiga at the Ciutat de Valencia on Tuesday, making a perfect start to their league campaign.

Brazilian winger Vinicius Junior gave Madrid the breakthrough in the 28th minute with a stunning outside-foot strike into the far corner.

Soon after, teenage sensation Mastantuono doubled the lead, calmly finishing to put Los Blancos firmly in control.

Levante pulled one back in the 54th minute when Ivan Romero's deflected shot fell kindly for Etta Eyong, who made no mistake in reducing the deficit to 2-1.

Madrid, however, quickly reasserted their dominance. Mbappe restored the two-goal cushion from the penalty spot with a cheeky chip down the middle before adding his second just three minutes later.

The Frenchman latched onto Arda Güler's perfectly weighted through ball, rounded the goalkeeper, and slotted into an empty net to complete his brace.

The win lifts Real Madrid to the top of LaLiga with 18 points from six matches.

Madrid coach Xabi Alonso praised Vinicius for his decisive performance and highlighted the team's growing chemistry.

"Vinicius played a decisive and very important role tonight," Alonso said. "We are in a phase of growth and construction. It's only the beginning of the season, and there's still a long way to go. We are building a solid foundation to be competitive in the Champions League, LaLiga, and Copa del Rey.

"I see the players feeling energised and connected, which is important. There are still things to improve, but we are on the right track."

Levante remain 16th in the table and will next face Getafe, while Madrid turn their focus to the Madrid derby against Atletico on Saturday.—Agency

Isak Opens Liverpool Account as Ekitike Sees Red After Match-Winner



LIVERPOOL: Alexander Isak scored for the first time for Liverpool after joining. Hugo Ekitike was handed a red card following a late winner as the hosts down second-tier Southampton 2-1 at Anfield to book a place in the fourth round of the Carabao Cup.

Isak, who was signed in a record 125 million pounds ($169.04 million) deal from Newcastle United, put Liverpool ahead with a brilliant effort in the 43rd minute.

Southampton levelled the match 1-1 in the 76th minute through Shea Charles after a glaring error by midfielder Wataru Endo.

It was Ekitike, who scored a winner with five minutes remaining in the regulation time and was sent off for a second yellow card after a shirtless celebration.

Captain of the completely different team from last weekend, Andy Robertson, said it was silly from Ekitike, but he is young and will learn from it.

"I'd be very surprised if he does it again," Robertson said.

"It's two silly bookings to pick up and obviously we miss him for Saturday.

"It's silly from his part but he's only young and he'll learn from it."

Alexander Isak, in his second start for the Reds, missed an opportunity in the first minute.

Reflecting on the missed opportunity, he said it is in the early stages and that he will improve with time in a Liverpool shirt.

"It's still early, a new club and new teammates, but I feel good," he said.

"I think with all the games I get I'm only going to get better."

Meanwhile, Club World Cup champions Chelsea overcame Lincoln City in a 2-1 victory.

League One (third tier) Cardiff City upset Burnley 2-1 at Turf Moor.—Agency

Elina Svitolina Steps Away From Tennis to Prioritize Mental Health



Former world number three Elina Svitolina has decided to take a break from tennis to concentrate on her mental health.

The Ukrainian on Tuesday claimed she is not in the 'right emotional space' to continue.

Svitolina took maternity leave in 2023 and came back strong to the circuit and made it to the Australian Open and French Open quarterfinals this year.

It is pertinent to mention that she lost her momentum after that and was defeated in the third round of Wimbledon and was eliminated at the first hurdle at Flushing Meadows.

The world number 13 helped Ukraine reach the Billie Jean King Cup semi-finals, where she was beaten in three sets by Jasmine Paolini last week.

Svitolina explained on her Instagram story that she is not ready to play and is ending the season.

She further said that sport is not about money, fame, or ranking; it is simply about being ready to fight, and at the moment, she feels she is not ready.

"I haven't been feeling like myself lately. I'm not in the right emotional space, and I don't feel ready to play, so I am therefore ending the season here," Svitolina said.

"Over the years, I've learned that this sport isn't about money, fame, or rankings - it's about being ready to fight and to give your all. Right now, I'm simply not at the level mentally or emotionally to do that."—Agency

REGIONAL TIMES
ENTERTAINMENT



Taylor Swift's Dazzling 'Life of a Showgirl' Album Heads to Big Screen



Taylor Swift is coming back to big screens in Canada this fall!

The 35-year-old pop sensation's fans can attend release party screenings of her forthcoming 12th studio album, The Life of a Showgirl, at Cineplex theaters across Canada next month.

Taylor Swift: The Official Release Party of a Showgirl is an 89-minute event that will be shown in cinemas from October 3 to 5.

Swifties can purchase tickets online from the theater chain's official website, Cineplex.com.

Recently, Taylor appeared on her now-fiancé Travis Kelce's New Heights podcast and revealed how Showgirl took shape.

"It was something that I was working on while I was in Europe on the Eras Tour," said the Bad Blood hitmaker.

"…Working on this, I was physically exhausted at this point in the tour, but I was so mentally stimulated, so excited to be creating," she added.

For those unversed, Taylor announced her engagement with the NFL star on August 26 via a social media.

"Your English teacher and your gym teacher are getting married," the Lover singer penned on Instagram alongside adorable images showing Travis proposing to Taylor.

Ben Affleck Freezes Out JLo, Driving Her to the Edge



It appears that despite Ben Affleck being openly supportive of his ex-wife Jennifer Lopez, and saying "I have nothing but respect" for her in his interview with GQ back in March of this year, it appears there is more hidden truth.

According to a well-placed insider that just turned to RadarOnline, the claims that there is "no scandal, no soap opera, no intrigue" may not be completely true.

According to the source, Jennifer Lopez has "stopped leaving messages or texts because he never answers," them.

In her eyes the source says, "It's so demeaning and rude. Once in a while, Ben will get back to her with the bare minimum or a 'like' to one of her questions, but 99.9 percent of the time, it's all being handled by his lawyers or assistants."

And as of right now Affleck's behavior is "is driving J.Lo absolutely batty."

This has come a few days after news came out that Jennifer Garner is finally ready to move on and marry John Miller.

"For Ben, it's torture," the source said. "He was clinging to the hope she'd have second thoughts and call it off, but now that's clearly not happening. He has to get his head around the fact she'll be officially wed and tied down to someone else who's going to be living under the same roof and spending time with his kids."

Taylor Swift Stung by Blake Lively Drama, Left Publicly Embarrassed



Singer-songwriter Taylor Swift has just suffered greatly at Blake Lively's hands, and its all got to do with how she's humiliated her in public, in front of Travis Kelce.

The news has been brought to light by a well placed insider that just sat down with RadarOnline.

This source in question explained the incident that led to all this, and was quoted saying, "For Taylor, that arrest was it."

For those unversed, the arrest was made on September 15th when an ex-cop turned-private eye hopped the fence of Travis Kelce's home in Kansas to serve Swift deposition papers.

The papers were so she could turn up in court for the case Justin Boldoni has against Blake Lively for defamation.

While any such promise of a court appearance was rejected by Swift, the private eye in question was arrested in the early hours of 2am.

Now, Swift "believes Blake opened the door to all of this, and watching a process server get handcuffed at Travis' home because of Blake's lawsuit was humiliating. It has ended whatever was left of their bond."

Another source also chimed in to the outlet and added, "Taylor has dealt with stalkers and security scares for years, but being dragged into Blake's drama with Baldoni feels different. She sees it as betrayal."

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND






Province-Wide Employee Strike Paralyzes Sindh Over Pay and Benefits

By Sher Ali Khawaja



TANDO BAGO: On the second day of the province-wide protest led by the Sindh Employees Alliance, all government offices in Tando Bago, including schools, colleges, the taluka hospital, and revenue offices, remained shut as employees boycotted work. APCA leader Fatahullah Junejo and Paramedical Staff leader Ghulam Muhammad Junejo condemned the Sindh government's actions such as halting the Disparity Reduction Allowance (DRA), cutting pensions, withholding group insurance, and failing to raise salaries. They announced that a complete shutdown across Badin district would continue from September 23 to 27. Warning of escalated action, they stated that if the government does not respond, a historic protest will be held in Karachi on October 6, which will continue until their demands are fully met.

PPP MPA Barrister Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq Kicks Off District Reorganization Drive

By Javed Laghari





DADU: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Dadu District President and MPA Barrister Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq has initiated the process of receiving forms as part of the party's new organizational restructuring. At Pir House Dadu, Barrister Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq and PPP District Information Secretary Mir Saddam Hussain Balhro received forms submitted by political and social leader Sardar Rajab Khan Shahani, Johi's Raees Jabbar Laghari, PPP District Deputy General Secretary, and Senior Vice Presidents of PPP Dadu and Johi talukas.

Grand Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) Celebration Illuminates Village Laghari

By Abdul Sattar



TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: A grand Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) celebration was held in the village of Haji Muhammad Somar Laghari, Bulri Shah Karim, organized by Faqir Jan Muhammad Shafi Laghari. The event was presided over by Pir Tariqat Rahbar Shariah Hazrat Sain Muhammad Hanif Nazrovi Qasmi from Larkana, with notable religious scholars Maulana Muhammad Yaseen Qasmi and Allama Mufti Muhammad Hussain Janwri delivering speeches. The ceremony featured soulful naats by local reciters and was attended by prominent figures including Mir Hyder Ali Khan Talpur, Pir Ali Raza Shahi Jilani, and Dr. Mir Hasan Turk, along with thousands of devotees. The gathering concluded with a communal langar, marking a spiritually uplifting occasion for all participants.

Pakistan Sunni Tehreek Leader Urges Muslim Unity Against Israeli Aggression

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Senior Central Vice President of Pakistan Sunni Tehreek, Muhammad Khalid Qadri, has called for immediate unity among Muslim countries to confront Israel's ongoing aggression in Gaza and to support the recognition of Palestine as a sovereign state. Speaking to the media, he praised nations that have already recognized Palestine and urged those who have not to do so before it is too late. He criticized global powers and European nations for turning a blind eye to the bloodshed in Gaza, saying those who preach humanity remain silent on Israel's brutalities. Qadri also condemned India's continued oppression in Kashmir, stating that both Israel and India are backed by the United States, which is destabilizing global peace. He emphasized that Muslim countries must stand together fearlessly to protect the rights of oppressed Muslims and warned that history will not forgive silence in the face of such injustice and tyranny.

Sabayo-Rind Clash Erupts Into Violence, Several Injured in Rampage

By Muhammed Ali Surhio

JACOBABAD: A minor dispute near Mamal Phatak in the jurisdiction of Saddar Police Station escalated into a violent clash between the Sabayo and Rind communities. During the initial fight, Rashid Rind, nephew of journalist Bilawal Khan Rind, was injured with an iron rod by members of the Sabayo community. After receiving medical treatment at the Civil Hospital, the Rind community was ambushed in their village by Sabayo men, including Mohammad Azim aka Kanwal Sabayo, Salim Sabayo, and others, leading to a renewed violent confrontation. Several people, including Rashid Ali, Mohammad Hanif, and Mohammad Sadiq, were injured. Bilawal Rind accused the Sabayo community of spreading false claims that the Rinds attacked their homes and demanded a transparent investigation by the police. As of the latest reports, no FIR has been registered in connection with the incident.

Ahmedpur By-Election Sees PPP Triumph Amid GDA Boycott

By AQ Khilji

PIR JO GOTH: By-elections were held for the vacant councillor seat of Ahmedpur Town Committee Ward No-1, where Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) candidate Mumtaz Ali Shaikh secured a decisive victory with 879 votes, while the Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) candidate managed only 130 votes. The GDA candidate, Pir Muhammad Sandilo, boycotted polling stations after 2 PM, alleging that over 200 of their voters' names were wrongly removed from the list to prevent them from voting. Mumtaz Ali Shaikh won with 534 votes at the men's polling station at Government Higher Secondary School and 345 votes at the women's polling station in Village Jumo Khoso. GDA has filed a complaint with the presiding officer and election office seeking a re-election to ensure transparency and fairness.

Talhar Grinds to a Halt as Employees Join Province-Wide Strike



TALHAR: In response to the Sindh Employees Alliance's call, a complete strike was observed in Talhar taluka, with all schools and government offices locked. Educational and official activities came to a halt, causing difficulties for the public. Employees demanded the immediate withdrawal of the pension cut notification and acceptance of all pending demands, vowing to continue protests until their rights are secured.—RT

Maqsoodo Rind Grieves the Loss of Legendary Poet Hussain Bux Rind

By Ayaz Latif Rind

MAQSOODO RIND: The resident of nearby village Mitho Rind and celebrated poet Hussain Bux Rind passed away after a brief illness. His funeral prayers were attended by political, social, and literary personalities along with respected community members. Hussain Bux Rind was laid to rest in his ancestral graveyard with heartfelt farewells. The Sindhi Adabi Sangat Taluka Maqsoodo Rind, including Secretary Shoaib Ali Rind and Joint Secretary Raza Hussain Raza, expressed deep sorrow and paid tribute to his valuable contributions to folk literature. The National Press Club Maqsoodo Rind also conveyed condolences to the bereaved family.

Jacobabad Court Orders FIR Against SEPCO Over Electrocution Death

By Hashim Brohi

JACOBABAD: The First Additional Sessions Judge's court in Jacobabad has ordered the registration of a case against SEPCO officials following the tragic death of local youth Asad Banglani, who died after coming into contact with an 11,000-volt high-tension wire that had fallen on the road. The deceased's father filed a petition blaming SEPCO's negligence and poor safety measures for the incident. After hearing the case, the court directed that a case be registered against former SEPCO XEN Mukhtiar Ansari, SDO LS, and other responsible officers.

Ghotki Youth Storm Streets Over Joblessness, Chairman Forced to Apologize



By Shad Mahar

GHOTKI: Youth protesting unemployment at Daharki Gas Company blocked the vehicle of Gas Energy Social Development Committee Chairman Abdul Bari Pitafi to voice their demands. During the protest during whicj Abdul Bari Pitafi slapped a protesting youth, and the incident's video went viral on social media. Following widespread criticism, including from former MPA and PPP leader, Pitafi visited the protest site to apologize to student leader Karimdad Mahar. Despite harsh slogans from protesters, Abdul Bari Pitafi admitted his mistake, apologized, and a six-member committee was formed to resolve the youths' issues. After the apology, Karimdad Mahar also forgave Pitafi.

BTK Stars Shine Victorious at Shaheed Daniyal Open Tournament



By Sajid Ali Janyaro

KETI BANDAR: BTK Stars clinched a thrilling victory by 5 wickets in the Shaheed Daniyal Season Tournament, held under the All Karachi Open banner. The tournament, organized in memory of Shaheed Daniyal, showcased outstanding cricket and sportsmanship, drawing local talent. Prominent guests, including Ahmed Chohan, Sardar Kamran Tareen, Sajid Karim Shaikh, and businessman Ahsanullah, graced the event. BTK Stars received the winners' trophy and a Rs. 100,000 cash prize, awarded to Yaman Khan on behalf of the team. The guests praised the players' zeal and emphasized such tournaments' role in promoting youth sports and nurturing future cricket stars in Karachi.



TALHAR: PPP Badin Leader Sunil Kumar is cutting a cake to mark Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's 37th birthday celebration.– RT

Awaz Forum Launched in Thatta to Tackle Gender Gaps and Push Education

By Khuda Bux Brohi



THATTA: Civil society, lawyers, and women activists have launched the Awaz Forum in Thatta to tackle gender inequality, domestic violence, child marriages, and promote non-formal education for out-of-school children. The initiative was announced at a consultative meeting by Indus Resource Centre. Key speakers emphasized the need for legal support, awareness campaigns, and collective efforts to address the region's social issues. Local stakeholders pledged full cooperation to ensure gender justice and access to education across Thatta district.

Sindh United Party President Slams Govt Over Resource Misuse and Pension Cuts

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Sindh United Party President Syed Zain Shah, addressing the Badin Bar Association, condemned the government's handling of provincial resources and pension reforms. He accused the current administration of selling Sindh's mineral wealth to foreign companies and criticized the unjust pension deductions and removal of employee benefits. He also highlighted issues of corruption, unfair revenue distribution, and the government's failure to protect local interests. Syed Zain Shah called for united efforts to resist these policies and demanded a true democratic federation with justice for Sindh's people.

Tando Allahyar Court Sends Man to Death Row for Wife's Brutal Murder

By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The First Additional Sessions Judge Muhammad Abbas Siyal of Tando Allahyar has sentenced accused Mehboob Machhi to death and imposed a fine of Rs 1 million after he was found guilty of murdering his wife. According to details, the incident occurred in 2024 when Mehboob Machhi killed his wife, Ms. Laila. A case was registered at Bukhari Sharif Police Station on the complaint of Ali Nawaz Machhi. After the crime was proven in court, the accused was convicted and sent to jail.

Larkana Police Foil Drug Smuggling Bid, Seize 12kg Charas Haul

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Larkana Police successfully thwarted an attempt to smuggle 12,000 grams (12 kilograms) of charas within the jurisdiction of Bakkapur Police Station. The accused, identified as Tariq alias Alam Shaikh, was arrested on the spot. According to police, the suspect is involved in drug trafficking and other serious crimes. On this successful operation, SSP Larkana Ahmed Chaudhry PSP, QPM praised DSP Aqil/Bakrani and his team for their performance and issued commendation messages in their favor.

Anti-Cervical Cancer Vaccination Drive Sweeps Across Larkana

By Saleem Soomro



LARKANA: An anti-cervical cancer vaccination campaign is ongoing in Larkana district from September 15 to 27. Deputy Commissioner Dr. Sharjeel Noor Channa, along with health and education officials, stated in a press conference that 122 teams are participating in the drive. So far, 63,134 girls out of a 132,662 target have been vaccinated. The campaign is being carried out in villages, schools, and hospitals by trained female health workers. Dr. Channa emphasized that cervical cancer causes a death every two minutes globally but can be prevented with a single vaccine dose. He urged parents to get their daughters aged 9 to 14 vaccinated to ensure protection against this life-threatening disease.

REGIONAL TIMES

GLOBAL WATCH

Massachusetts Lottery Player Strikes Again with $1M Jackpot Just Days After $10K Win



UK: A Connecticut man won a $1 million prize from a Massachusetts State Lottery ticket just one week after winning $10,000 from a ticket he bought from the same store.The Massachusetts State Lottery said Sevan Garabettian, of Enfield, Conn., bought a Ghostbusters scratch-off ticket from the Quick Pic store on River Road in Agawam.The ticket turned out to be a $1 million winner.Garabettian had visited lottery headquarters just one week earlier to collect a $10,000 prize he won from another lottery ticket he bought from the same store.The winner said his prize money will go toward buying a new house and making investments.

METRO KARACHI



Red Line BRT Faces Two-Year Delay, Admits Sharjeel



KARACHI: Sharjeel Memon on Wednesday said that the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit Project could still require two more years in completion.

"In next four to six months' time all bus project problems faced by the people will be addressed," Sindh's senior minister assured in ARY News morning show 'Bakhabar Sawera'.

He said the issues faced by general public at University Road will be resolved by January, February.

Sharjeel said that the government wants an early completion of this project. "There are issues pertaining to transfer of utilities for the Red Line BRT," he said.

He said the gas, water and K-Electric lines are required to be shifted from the bus route.

"We are not responsible for the disgrace, faced by the government owing to the BRT project," he said.

He said the government of Sindh is not silent or inactive, "We are proactively taking steps and also directed the Commissioner Karachi to keep in touch on daily basis," minister said.

"The Sindh government is facing several challenges pertaining to BRT projects, but we are working," Sharjeel Memon said.—RT

DHA Teachers and Student Ambassadors Honored at IHRI Award Ceremony



Karachi – The Institute of Holistic Rehabilitation and Inclusion (IHRI) held a Certificate Distribution Ceremony at the DHACSS SKBZ Campus Auditorium to recognize DHA teachers who successfully completed IHRI's specialized training programs, along with Student Brand Ambassadors who have played a key role in promoting inclusion and empowerment.

Addressing the gathering, IHRI CEO Mr. Razzak Pardesi underscored the importance of empowering educators and youth leaders to foster an inclusive society where every individual can thrive. —RT

SIMPACT 2025 Bridges Karachi and Nairobi in Simulation Health Education Push

Karachi: The Aga Khan University's Centre for Innovation in Medical Education (CIME) successfully concluded SIMPACT 2025, a two-day healthcare simulation conference held simultaneously in Karachi and Nairobi on September 19–20. The hybrid event linked experts, educators, and industry leaders across two continents, advancing innovation in simulation-based education.

With the theme "Sustainability in Simulation," the conference addressed financial, operational, and environmental challenges crucial for long-term healthcare training. More than 300 research abstracts were submitted, 100 oral and poster presentations delivered, and 43 workshops conducted for healthcare professionals.—RT

Neighbors Nabbed for Abduction and Murder of 7-Year-Old Boy in Landhi

Karachi: Police have arrested suspects in connection with the abduction, assault, and murder of a 7-year-old boy in the Landhi area. According to officials, the culprits turned out to be the child's neighbors, a revelation that has deeply shocked the local community.

Authorities stated that the boy was reported missing earlier this week, and a search operation was immediately launched. His body was later discovered, confirming suspicions of abduction and assault. Investigators swiftly traced evidence leading to the suspects, who were then taken into custody.

Police officials said the case has been registered, and further investigations are underway to determine the motive and whether additional individuals were involved. —RT/Agency

Weed Kingpin Supplying Karachi's Elite Youth Busted in Police Raid



KARACHI: The Special Investigation Unit (SIU) arrested a suspect involved in supplying weed to young men and women in the city's upscale neighborhoods. The operation was carried out in the Jamshed Quarters area, where the accused, identified as Irfan, was taken into custody.

According to police, nearly one kilogram of narcotics (weed) was recovered from his possession. Initial investigations revealed that the suspect used WhatsApp to take orders and collected advance payments from buyers. Authorities further disclosed that he frequently supplied drugs to youth in posh localities, sometimes even using courier services to deliver the substance.—RT/Agency

PPP Surges Ahead as Unofficial Results Shake Up Sindh LG By-Polls

KARACHI: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has secured victory in 11 districts during Sindh's local government by-elections, unofficial results showed on Wednesday.

As per unofficial and unconfirmed results, the PPP won five vice-chairman seats, while an independent candidate bagged one.

The Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) secured one general council seat, while Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) and independent candidates won two seats each.

Meanwhile, Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah congratulated the PPP candidates on their "victories" in the local body by-polls. He said that PPP's triumph reflects people's confidence in the leadership of Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari.

By-elections were held in 14 districts of Sindh for 28 local government (LG) by-election seats.—RT

Azerbaijan Cargo Plane Forced Into Emergency Landing at Karachi Airport

KARACHI: An Azerbaijan-based Silk Way Airlines cargo flight made an emergency landing at Jinnah International Airport due to a technical fault, according to a report published by Jang.

Flight ZP 4771 was en route from Baku to Chennai when it developed a malfunction while cruising at 31,000 feet. The aircraft had crossed into Indian airspace over the Arabian Sea when the issue was detected. The pilot immediately contacted Karachi Air Traffic Control to request permission for an emergency landing.

Clearance was granted, and the IL-76 cargo aircraft safely landed in Karachi, where engineers began inspecting the plane. Airport officials confirmed that the landing was carried out without incident, and no casualties were reported.

The technical fault is being assessed before the aircraft is cleared for onward travel.—RT/Agency

Mayor Murtaza Wahab Slams Federal Govt Over Stalled Red and Green Line Projects



Karachi: Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab has criticized the federal government for its failure to complete the Green Line project up to Tower, stating that the route is being restricted only to Jama Cloth Market. Speaking to the media, he questioned why the federal government has kept the No-Objection Certificate (NOC) pending for nine years, adding that it is shameful to deny funds to the mayor's office under the pretext of lacking a standard operating procedure.

Wahab pointed out that during Mustafa Kamal's tenure, the federal government used to provide funds directly to local governments. —RT

Gunmen Storm Clinic in Shah Faisal Colony, Loot Patients and Staff at Gunpoint

Karachi: An armed robbery took place at a clinic in Shah Faisal Colony No. 2, where three suspects looted valuables from patients and staff. According to police, the culprits snatched mobile phones, cash, and jewelry during the incident.

Witnesses reported that one of the suspects forcibly took a ring from a woman, while staff members at the cash counter were physically assaulted for resisting. The robbers, wearing masks and helmets to conceal their identities, created panic inside the clinic before fleeing with the stolen items.

Police confirmed that a case has been registered, and investigations have been launched to identify and apprehend the culprits. Authorities assured that CCTV footage from the area is being examined . —RT/Agency

Karachi Braces for Cloudy and Humid Weather Conditions Today

KARACHI: The city is likely to experience cloudy and humid conditions throughout the day, according to the Meteorological Department. The current temperature has been recorded at 29 degrees Celsius, with humidity levels at 78 percent. Winds are blowing from the southwest at a speed of 11 km per hour.

The forecast suggests that the maximum temperature may rise between 31 and 33 degrees Celsius. The weather is expected to remain mostly cloudy, with chances of light drizzle in some areas during the morning and nighttime hours.

Authorities have advised citizens to prepare for humid conditions, while slight showers may bring temporary relief from the heat.—RT/Agency

Malir Journalists Demand Protection Amid Surge in Attacks and Robberies



By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: Journalists and activists gathered in front of the Malir Press Club to protest escalating attacks and robberies targeting media professionals in the Malir district. Organized by the Malir Public Press Club and KUJ workers, the protest saw large participation from journalists, political activists, and social leaders. Protesters condemned the violence against journalists, highlighting recent incidents including the shooting of private TV anchor Imtiaz Mir and robberies of journalists Tariq Sahto, Basharat Shah, and Javed Abdali. Speakers criticized police inaction and demanded immediate arrest of the culprits, recovery of stolen property, and enhanced protection measures to ensure journalists can work safely and freely.

CM Murad and US Envoy Lock Talks on Flood Relief, Investment, and Security

By Rahib Gaho



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah met with US Chargé d'Affaires Natalie Ashton Baker at CM House, where they discussed flood management, food security, energy cooperation, investment opportunities, and security support. US Consul General Charles Goodman and senior officials also attended the meeting.

Murad Shah reaffirmed his commitment to launching the Keti Bandar port project, describing it as a vision of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and essential to easing pressure on Karachi Port. Ms Baker announced that senior executives from leading US firms would soon visit Karachi to explore investments in energy, infrastructure, and industry.

The chief minister highlighted progress on Thar coal projects, food security challenges, and Sindh's preparedness for floods. Both sides discussed $2.25 million in US aid, security cooperation under the INL programme, and initiatives for persons with disabilities.

Ms Baker praised Sindh's efforts against extremism and lauded DSP Manisha Rupeta's international representation.

Farooq Sattar Blasts PPP and Mayor Wahab Over Karachi's Unfinished Projects



Karachi: Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) leader Farooq Sattar launched a scathing criticism of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and the Karachi Mayor, saying that if they ever complete a project properly, it should be rewarded with "thousands of dollars."

Speaking at a press conference in Karachi, Sattar pointed out that the Green Line project, initially planned for completion within a few months, has faced repeated delays. He noted that work on the project was halted on September 18, further frustrating citizens.

He added that the Sindh government is still entangled in the Red Line project and highlighted several other development schemes left unfinished by the PPP. Sattar said he could list many incomplete initiatives, arguing that the public should not expect any meaningful relief from the ruling party in Sindh when it comes to civic and infrastructural projects.—RT/Agency

Sindh Govt Tightens Vehicle Rules, Rolls Out Modern Tracking Systems

By Rahib Gaho

KARACHI: The Sindh government has amended the Sindh Motor Vehicle Rules, 1969, introducing strict conditions for heavy commercial vehicles to improve traffic safety and enforcement. A notification has been issued, and the rules will take effect within one year.

Senior Minister for Information and Transport, Sharjeel Inam Memon, announced that all heavy vehicles must obtain road fitness certificates from Transport Department centers. Age limits have been set: vehicles older than 20 years will not operate on inter-provincial routes, 25 years on inter-city routes, and 35 years within cities.

All commercial vehicles will be required to install GPS trackers, high-definition cameras, driver monitoring systems, and 360-degree cameras. Under-run protection guards will also be mandatory.

Violations will carry heavy penalties, with fines up to Rs 300,000 and possible cancellation of registration for non-compliance. Memon said these steps aim to reduce accidents, protect lives, and modernize Sindh's transport system.

Journalist Zafar Alam Malik Offers Condolences in Landhi Child Murder Tragedy



KARACHI: RT Correspondent Zafar Alam Malik has expressed his heartfelt condolences to the family of the young boy Saad, who tragically passed away in Landhi. Malik extended sympathy to the boy's father, sharing grief over the untimely loss and standing in solidarity with the bereaved family during this difficult time.—RT

Notorious Landhi Robber Caught Red-Handed With Loaded Pistol

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: In a late-night operation near Soda Factory close to Sawera Flour Mill, Landhi, Karachi, Sukhan Police Checkpost in-charge Tahir Khan arrested a notorious robber, Sehat Ali, son of Piyaro. During routine patrolling, the suspect was stopped and searched, revealing a pistol in his possession. The accused, known for multiple nighttime robberies, tried to flee but was caught. He was handed over to Sukhan Police Station, where a case under Section 23(1)A was registered. Police vowed to continue strict actions against criminals in the area.

CORRIGENDUM

With reference to NIT (Tender Notice) INF/KRY.No.2795/25, published in Daily Jang dated: 12.09.25, Daily Kawish dated: 11.09.2029 and Frontier Post as well as Sindhi , Urdu and English Newspapers, Regarding Procurement of I.T Equipment for Sindh Police for Current Financial year 2025-26, The following parameters are followed as per the guidelines and amendments:

a. Changes have been made in the bidding document under Evaluation Criteria, Scope of Work Para 6.1 and under General Terms and Conditions, Clause (X) - Liquidated Damages, Subsection (d).

b. Last date of submission of bids: 06.10.2025 at 1400 hours. Instead of 25.09.2025 at 1400 hours.

C. Date for Opening of technical bids: 06.10.2025 at 1430 hours. Instead of 25.09.2025 at 1430 hours.

d. All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged. Bidders may download the amended document from the EPAD Public Portal (EPADS-S-250924361) and the Sindh Police official website i.e. www.sindhpolice.gov.pk

(IMRAN YAQUB), PSP
(Chairman Procurement Committee)
DIGP/ Information Technology
CPO, Sindh, Karachi.

INF-KRY No: 2963/25

TENDER NOTICE

HIRING OF EVENT MANAGEMENT FIRM FOR TRAINING ON GATS AT PITAD ISLAMABAD

Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) invites sealed bids from reputed firms/suppliers, registered with **Income Tax and Sales Tax Departments** and appearing on the **Active Taxpayers List (ATL)** of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), for provision of services for the **Training on GATS (General Agreement on Trade in Services)** scheduled to be held from **13th to 15th October, 2025** at the **Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development (PITAD), Islamabad.**

The bidding process will be carried out under the **Single Stage – Single Envelope Procedure** as per Public Procurement Rules, 2004. Bidding documents containing detailed terms and conditions are available on **EPADS (www.epads.gov.pk).**

Sealed bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the bidding documents, must reach the office of the undersigned on or before **9 October, 2025 at 11:00 AM.** Bids will be opened on the same day at **11:30 AM** in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

TDAP reserves the right to reject any or all bids as per **PPRA Rule 33.**

PID(K)1035/25

Deputy Director (Admin)
Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP)
Islamabad
0519208327

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THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25 2025

Shehbaz And Muslim Leaders Press Trump For Gaza Ceasefire Deal



US President Donald Trump's meeting with leaders of Muslim-majority nations, including Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly focused on the situation in Gaza and the wider Middle East.

Participants included Turkiye, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Egypt, the UAE and Jordan.

The 50-minute meeting saw Trump call it an honour to meet Islamic leaders and praise their efforts, saying, "You all have done an excellent job, which is commendable".

The Turkish President described the talks as extremely productive.

As reported by the Emirati state news agency WAM, the meeting mulled taking steps towards addressing the worsening humanitarian crisis in the war-torn enclave.

NATO member Turkey has harshly criticised Israel's attacks on Gaza and said they amount to genocide. It has halted all trade with Israel, urged international measures against it, and called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

Speaking to reporters in New York after the meeting, Erdogan said a joint declaration from the meeting would be published and that he was "pleased" with the outcomes of the meeting, but did not elaborate.

None of the other Muslim leaders spoke to the media after the meeting.

Later, Trump declared the meeting extremely important and spoke to the media about ending the Gaza war, saying it could possibly be concluded soon. He added, "We are going to end something that we did not start".

He also outlined US plans for an Israeli withdrawal and post-war governance in Gaza without Hamas involvement, according to US media.

Washington is seeking Arab and Muslim nations' agreement to send troops to Gaza to enable Israel's withdrawal and to fund transition and rebuilding programmes, Axios had earlier reported.

As per Al-Jazeera, the Gaza plan was reportedly not drafted by Israel, but Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has been made aware of the details. It is believed to envisage some future involvement by the Palestinian Authority (PA), something Israel has repeatedly said it will not tolerate.

Israel faces global condemnation over its military conduct in Gaza, where local health authorities say more than 65,000 Palestinians have been killed.

In recent weeks, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government has begun a long-threatened ground assault on Gaza City, with no ceasefire in sight. But Washington remains Israel's staunchest ally.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Declares Gaza A Graveyard For Humanity And A Test For Global Conscience



UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan highlighted the "historic suffering" of the Palestinian people and called on the UN Security Council to take decisive action to uphold human dignity, ensure accountability, and deliver justice, while emphasizing the need for a two-state solution for peace in the Middle East.

"The time for words has passed; the time for action is now," Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar told the 15-member Council during a session focused on the dire situation in Gaza.

He went on to describe Gaza as "a graveyard for humanity and the global conscience," reaffirming Pakistan's steadfast support for the Palestinian people in their struggle for dignity, justice, and self-determination. He called for the establishment of a sovereign, independent, and contiguous Palestinian state based on pre-1967 borders, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

DPM/FM commended the recent recognitions of Palestine by numerous member states, saying that Pakistan had the honour to be among the first few countries to recognize Palestine, following the declaration of independence in 1988.

"This positive momentum must be sustained with resolute determination, seriousness of purpose, and an unwavering commitment to achieving a just and lasting solution," he said. "The people of Palestine are facing a crisis of historic proportion, the suffering is a stain on our collective consciousness."

Dar called for an immediate permanent ceasefire; unhindered humanitarian access to Gaza and the immediate lifting of the blockade to allow life-saving aid to reach those in need; an end to any forced displacement of Palestinians from their lands, while upholding the right of return for refugees, and establishing an international protection mechanism.

Opening the debate, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said, "We are confronting one of the darkest chapters of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, noting that violence has only escalated across the Occupied Palestinian Territory nearly two years after the Israeli war in Gaza.—RT/Agency

US Envoy Reveals Syria And Israel Close To Explosive De-escalation Pact



Syria and Israel are close to striking a "de-escalation" agreement in which Israel will stop its attacks while Syria will agree to not move any machinery or heavy equipment near the Israeli border, a senior US envoy said.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of UN General Assembly meetings in New York, US Special Envoy for Syria Tom Barrack said the agreement would serve as the first step towards the security deal that the two countries have been negotiating.

Syria and Israel are in talks to reach an agreement that Damascus hopes will secure a halt to Israeli airstrikes and the withdrawal of Israeli troops who have pushed into southern Syria.

US President Donald Trump has sought to strike an agreement between the two sides that would be announced this week but not enough progress has been made so far and the Rosh Hashana holiday, the Jewish New Year this week, has slowed down the process, Barrack said.

"I think everybody is approaching it in good faith," Barrack said.

Israel and Syria have been Middle East adversaries for decades. Despite the overthrow of Syria's longtime President Bashar al-Assad last December, territorial disputes and deep-seated political mistrust between the two countries remain.

Israel has voiced hostility to Syria's government, pointing to President Ahmed al-Sharaa's former jihadist links, and has lobbied Washington to keep the country weak and decentralised.

After months of encroaching into the demilitarised zone, Israel abandoned the 1974 truce on December 8, the day a rebel offensive ousted Assad. It struck Syrian military assets and sent troops to within 20km (12 miles) of Damascus.

Since then, Israel has carried out more than 1,000 strikes on Syria and conducted more than 400 ground incursions, Sharaa said last week.Speaking shortly before Barrack at an event in New York, Sharaa, a former al Qaeda leader who led rebel forces that overthrew Assad's government last year, expressed concern that Israel may be stalling the talks.—RT/Agency

Organisers Claim Gaza Aid Flotilla Hammered By Drone Attacks



ATHENS, Greece: Organisers of a Gaza-bound flotilla carrying aid and pro-Palestinian activists said Wednesday that several of their boats had been targeted by multiple drones.

The Global Sumud Flotilla said more than a dozen explosions were heard around the flotilla as it sailed off Greece late on Tuesday, with damage caused by "unidentified objects" dropped on deck.

"Multiple drones, unidentified objects dropped, communications jammed, and explosions heard from a number of boats," it said.

Polish lawmaker Franek Sterczewski, who is on board one of the vessels, posted on X that there had been 13 attacks on a total of 10 vessels, including the one he is on.

"Three of the ships were damaged," he added.German human rights activist and flotilla member Yasemin Acar said in a video she posted on Instagram that five vessels had been attacked.—RT/Agency

Iran's President Tells UN: Tehran Will Never Build A Nuclear Bomb



UNITED NATIONS: Iran has no intention to build nuclear weapons, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian told the UN General Assembly on Wednesday, just days before international sanctions could be reimposed on his country over Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

"I hereby declare once more before this assembly that Iran has never sought and will never seek to build a nuclear bomb. We do not seek nuclear weapons," Pezeshkian said.

On August 28, Britain, France and Germany launched a 30-day process to reimpose UN sanctions that ends on September 27, accusing Tehran of failing to abide by a 2015 deal with world powers aimed at preventing it from developing a nuclear weapon.

The European powers have offered to delay reinstating sanctions for up to six months to allow space for talks on a long-term deal if Iran restores access for UN nuclear inspectors, addresses concerns about its stock of enriched uranium, and engages in talks with the United States.

SAYS E3 'SET ASIDE GOOD FAITH'

Pezeshkian criticised the move by European powers as "illegal", saying it was made at "the behest of the United States of America".

The United States, its European allies and Israel accuse Tehran of using its nuclear programme as a veil for efforts to try to develop the capability to produce weapons. Iran says its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes only.

"In doing so, they (the E3) set aside good faith. They circumvented legal obligations. They sought to portray Iran's lawful remedial measures ... as a gross violation," Pezeshkian said.

But amid the looming threat of sanctions and last-ditch talks on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, gaps remain between Tehran and European powers over a deal to avert the snapback of sanctions.—RT/Agency

Imran And Bushra Point Fingers At Establishment As Toshakhana 2 Verdict Nears



ISLAMABAD: As the Toshakhana-2 reference moves towards its final stages, PTI founder and former prime minister Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi have accused the NAB of acting as a tool of the establishment and their political opponents to keep them out of the political arena.

In their statements during the investigation of the case, Imran had alleged that he was ousted from power through a "local and foreign conspiracy" and had since November 2022, faced ruthless and unprecedented victimisation. He said that dozens of cases were manufactured against him and the PTI leadership, but all major prosecution cases have collapsed either through acquittals or suspension of sentences.

Khan questioned why only he and his wife were being singled out in the Toshakhana reference, when Nawaz Sharif and Asif Ali Zardari illegally retained luxury vehicles from Toshakhana, yet no action was taken against them. He maintained that all gifts retained during his premiership were evaluated by government-approved appraisers and in line with policy.

There has been absolutely no influence used in this or any previous case, he said, declaring that responsibility lay with the appraisers themselves. Naming Inam Shah, the key prosecution witness, in particular, Khan accused him of dishonesty and of working under the influence of Jehangir Tareen and Awn Chaudhry. He claimed both JKT and Chaudhry were used by the establishment to break the PTI and weaken him politically before the February 8 elections.—RT/Agency

PIA Regains UK Certification, Sets Sights On Flight Resumption Next Month



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) said on Wednesday that it has received Third Country Operator (TCO) certification from UK authorities, paving the way for the resumption of operations to Britain as early as next month.

The airline shared the update on its official X account, confirming plans to restart UK flights and thanking Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, the Ministry of Defence, Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA), and other affiliated institutions for their support.

Meanwhile, a letter issued by the UK Department for Transport (DfT) confirmed permanent approval for PIA to operate cargo flights from Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi to Britain. The designations under the UK's ACC3 aviation security framework are valid until August 2030.—RT/Agency

Islamabad Announces 22 Mega Projects Worth Rs334 Billion To Transform Karachi



KARACHI: The spokesperson for the Federal Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Barrister Raja Khaliq uz Zaman Ansari, announced on Wednesday that the federal government is set to launch 22 mega projects in Karachi, valued at Rs. 334 billion, in collaboration with the Sindh government and the city's mayor.

In a press conference held in Karachi, Raja Ansari alleged that Karachi Mayor Barrister Murtaza Wahab had halted the ongoing work on the Green Line expansion project, despite the federal government's commitment to completing the project in partnership with the Sindh government and the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC).

He informed that around 42,000 passengers travel daily through the Green Line and the 21-kilometer main corridor has already been completed. The second phase, stretching from Gurumandir to Municipal Park Saddar, had also been approved and its construction recently began.

However, he claimed that Karachi Mayor abruptly halted the work without offering any explanation, resulting in significant financial losses for the government.

"If we are allowed to continue the work, the Green Line expansion will be completed by June next year," he said.

Additionally, he revealed that the federal government plans to launch 22 mega projects in Karachi, worth Rs. 334 billion. These projects will include connecting traffic from Numaish to Municipal Park, integrating the Red, Yellow, and Blue Lines with the Green Line, and allocating substantial funds for the Karachi Water Filter Plant.—RT/Agency

Opposition Jolted As Hamid Raza Quits TTAP Info Secretary Post



ISLAMABAD: The opposition alliance faced a setback on Tuesday as Sahibzada Hamid Raza, head of the Sunni Ittehad Council, resigned from his position as information secretary.

According to sources within the Tehreek-e-Tahafuz Ayeen-e-Pakistan (TTAP), Raza was deeply upset over alleged trolling by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) social media activists after he declined to join the September 20 "mission nor".

PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, addressing the media a day earlier, clarified that no official announcement regarding "mission nor" had been made from the party's platform and suggested that the call may have originated from an unknown source.

However, some opposition leaders and central leaders were seen on social media marking the "mission nor" by reciting 'Azaan', including Senator Allama Raja Nasir Abbas Jafri.

It was learnt that Hamid Raza and his party had strong reservations about this mode of protest and declined to be part of it, prompting a sharp and unending reaction in the shape of his bashing by PTI social media.

"We are in touch with the SIC leadership and hopefully very soon sort out and allay the concerns of Sahibzada Hamid Raza. Since the party did not give any such call, then how can he be trolled for not subscribing to it," a senior PTI leader said when contacted.

However, TTAP spokesman Akhunzada Hussain posted a statement on the opposition alliance's X account, which says that Raza, an ally of the opposition alliance, had submitted his resignation to the TTAP leadership a few days ago, which was rejected by the leadership.—RT/Agency

Sniper Strikes Dallas ICE Office: 1 Dead, 2 Injured Before Shooter Kills Himself

US: A gunman opened fire on an ICE field office in northwest Dallas early Wednesday, killing one person and wounding two others before taking his own life. The shooter reportedly fired from a nearby rooftop around 6:40am. ICE officers were unharmed, though it's unclear who the victims were. Authorities suspect a sniper-style attack, echoing fears sparked by the recent sniper killing of activist Charlie Kirk. The incident heightens tensions amid political unrest and debate over Trump's ICE policies.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Aligns With Global Push To End Russia-Ukraine War, Calls For Restraint



UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan supports every international effort to end the war between Russia and Ukraine, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Tariq Fatemi told the UN Security Council on Tuesday.

"The conflict has dragged on for more than three and a half years and has taken a heavy toll on innocent lives," Fatemi said. "No dispute can be settled by the use of force."

He explained that Pakistan has backed Security Council resolutions on the war and will continue to do so."The fighting has already created a serious humanitarian crisis," he warned. "It is also fuelling food and energy shortages and pushing up global inflation."

Fatemi appealed to both Moscow and Kyiv to "show patience and tolerance" and to look for a negotiated way forward. "Pakistan stands ready to support any genuine move that can bring this conflict to an end," he added.

The UN Secretary-General told the Security Council it's important not to lose the "fragile diplomatic momentum" between Ukraine and Russia – and international mediators – over ending the war. He was briefing ambassadors in back-to-back meetings where calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, he said the "day after" war ends there, must be anchored in international law, rejecting any "ethnic cleansing" of Palestinians.Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump has said that he believed Ukraine could retake all its land occupied by Russia and that Kyiv should act now, with Moscow facing "big" economic problems, in a sudden and striking rhetorical shift in Ukraine's favour.—RT/Agency

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