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Heartland

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MONEY

Gold Fever: Tola Price Nears Rs400,000 After Rs1,900 Surge



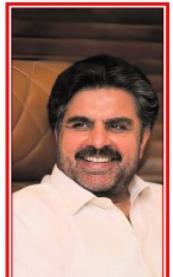
NATIONAL

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"Very Encouraging!" — PM Shehbaz Calls Trump Talks a Game-Changer in Global Diplomacy

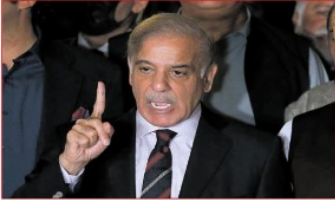
NEW JERSEY: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif described his meeting with US President Donald Trump as "encouraging."

He told reporters in the United States that he discussed economy, counterterrorism, minerals, AI, IT, and cryptocurrency meeting with President Trump. The US is prepared to invest in trade, IT, and other sectors, he added.

Shehbaz also thanked President Trump for addressing tariff issues and added that the valuation of minerals between Pakistan and the US would be determined appropriately, and trade agreements between the two countries would be based on mutual interests.

He stated that from May 6 to 10, the Pakistani Armed Forces defeated India in war. "No amount of gratitude is enough for the divine help bestowed upon the Pakistan Armed Forces."

He added that Field Marshal Asim Munir wisely led the Pakistan Army during the



war. Shehbaz Sharif repeated Field Marshal Asim's words who said that "we have won the war. We shot down seven of their aircraft, carried out attacks everywhere, and left them confused."

The prime minister also mentioned his visit to Saudi Arabia, where he said he was given a grand reception. "In the past 40 years, I have never seen such a reception," he remarked.

He said that the country was facing challenges a few years ago. "When I took office, there were economic challenges, inflation was at 32%, but now it has come

down to single digits within a year and a half. At that time, the policy rate was 22.5%, but now it is down to 11%."

He praised overseas Pakistanis as great ambassadors of the country, stating that they remitted \$38.5 billion to Pakistan during the previous fiscal year 2024-25.

He termed the economic situation of the country as stable "at the micro level." Earlier, talking to media in New York, Prime Minister Shehbaz said that Pakistan had won the war against India and now it wanted peace with its neighbor.—RT/Agency

Axis of Power: Pakistan, China, Iran & Russia Forge Front Against Afghan Terror Havens

NEW YORK: Pakistan, China, Iran, and Russia have

jointly expressed deep concern over the continued presence and operations of terrorist organisations in Afghanistan, including Al-Qaeda, the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), and other such outfits.

The statement was issued following the fourth quadrilateral meeting on Afghanistan, convened by Russia on the sidelines of the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York.

During the meeting, the four countries underscored the threat these groups pose to regional stability and urged for coordinated international efforts to neutralise terrorist



infrastructure operating from Afghan territory.

According to Foreign Office, the meeting reaffirmed the collective commitment of the four nations to support Afghanistan as a free, sovereign, united, and peaceful state.

The four foreign ministers emphasised the need to improve Afghanistan's economy

and alleviate the humanitarian suffering of its people. The participants agreed to strengthen trade cooperation and regional connectivity with Afghanistan. They also called for adjustments to the 1988 UN sanctions regime to reflect the current ground realities. The meeting called for scaling up emergency humanitarian assistance to

Afghanistan and stressed that such aid should not be politicised. The ministers urged Afghan authorities to take effective action against terrorist groups and to disrupt networks involved in terror financing, recruitment, and weapons access. Elimination of terrorist training centers and infrastructure within Afghanistan was highlighted as a priority. The four sides also agreed to enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperation on counter-terrorism. The need for a dignified and voluntary return of Afghan refugees was also underscored.

Both Iran and Pakistan were commended for hosting millions of Afghan refugees, with the international community being urged to extend

greater support to both countries. The ministers reiterated the importance of forming an inclusive and broad-based government in Afghanistan.

The meeting emphasised the rights of Afghan women and girls, particularly in education, employment, and participation in public life, and called for the protection of the fundamental rights and welfare of the Afghan people.

NATO countries were also held accountable for Afghanistan's current situation. The foreign ministers opposed the establishment of foreign military bases in or around Afghanistan and expressed support for regional and international efforts toward a political solution to the Afghan crisis.—RT/Agency

Red Line Drawn: Russia Warns of Decisive Response to Provocations



UNITED NATIONS: As new tensions rise between Russia and NATO powers, Moscow's top diplomat insisted to world leaders Saturday that his nation doesn't intend to attack Europe but will mount a "decisive response" to any aggression.

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov spoke at the UN General Assembly after weeks in which unauthorised flights into NATO's airspace — intrusions the alliance blames on Russia — have raised alarm around Europe, particularly after NATO jets downed drones over Poland and Estonia said Russian fighter jets flew into its territory and lingered for 12 minutes. Russia has denied that

its planes entered Estonian airspace and has said the drones didn't target Poland, with Moscow's ally Belarus maintaining that Ukrainian signal-jamming sent the devices off course. But European leaders see the incidents as intentional, provocative moves meant to rattle NATO and to suss how the alliance will respond. The alliance warned Russia this week that NATO would use all means to defend against any further breaches of its airspace. At the UN, Lavrov maintained it's Russia that's facing threats: "Russia has never had and does not have any such intentions" of attacking European or NATO countries, he said.—RT/Agency

FO Fires Back: Pakistan Denies Any Role in Shama Junejo's UN Appearance

UNITED NATION: Amid speculation on social media, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs clarified that the woman seated behind Defence Minister Khawaja Asif during his address to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) did not have the approval of Pakistan's authorities.

The clarification comes amid a controversy over the presence of columnist Shama Junejo at the UNSC session on 24 September 2025. Junejo was seen in visuals seated directly behind the defence minister during his speech, sparking backlash on social media.

Critics accused the government of including her in the official delegation despite her alleged support for Israel. The incident triggered widespread criticism and calls for accountability.

In response to the online outrage, defence czar Asif explained that he delivered the speech on behalf of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who could not attend due to prior commitments.

"It was the discretion and authority of the Foreign Office to decide who should sit behind



me, be it the woman [Shama Junejo] or anyone else. I have had an emotional attachment and commitment to the Palestinian issue for 60 years," the defence minister wrote on X.

"During my employment at the Abu Dhabi Bank, I made Palestinian friends and colleagues, and I still maintain contact with them to this day. My views on Gaza are clear, and I express them openly."

"My views on Israel and Zionism are nothing but hatred," Khawaja Asif added.

He was of the view that only the FO can answer the queries about the controversy.

"Who is this woman? Why was she with our delegation, and why was she seated behind me — the Foreign Office is the

one that can answer these questions. It is not appropriate for me to respond on their behalf. The history of my Twitter account bears witness to the fact that my relationship with Palestine is a part of my faith."

Later, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement addressing the matter on their official X account, saying that the individual in question was "not authorised by the FO" to sit with Pakistan's delegation.

"To clarify, the individual in question was not listed in the official letter of credence for the Pakistan delegation to the 80th UNGA Session, signed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister," the Ministry of Foreign Affairs posted on X.—RT/Agency

Terror Crushed: Security Forces Eliminate 17 Militants in KP's Karak

KP: The security forces on Saturday killed 17 militants during an operation in the Darsha Khail area of Karak, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The officials said that several injured militants fled and went into hiding in nearby villages.

The District Police Officer (DPO) reported that a large cache of weapons was recovered during the search operation and urged residents not to leave their homes or shelter anyone.

He said that any information about injured militants should be reported to police immediately.

Meanwhile, curfew has been imposed in Darsha Khail and surrounding villages of Karak.

According to sources, the intelligence-based op-



eration targeted the extremist group Fitna al-Khawarij in Darsha Khail, which lies on the boundary between Lakki Marwat and Karak. The security forces surrounded a 22-member militant group on the basis of secret information in the area.

As many as 17 terrorists were killed in the operation.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif

praised the security forces for eliminating 17 militants in Karak and prayed for the speedy recovery of wounded personnel. The prime minister lauded the professionalism and timely action of the security forces. "The government and security forces are determined to eradicate terrorism completely. We will soon uproot the monster of terrorism," he said.—RT/Agency

Comey Indicted: Trump's Campaign Accused of Weaponizing Justice to Silence Rivals



WASHINGTON: The US criminal case against former FBI director James Comey shatters norms of independence in federal investigations and will face significant hurdles in court, according to legal experts.

But for President Donald Trump, the final verdict may matter less than the move to exact retribution against an official who investigated him and

the warning to others he sees as political enemies. Comey, who was indicted on Thursday on charges of false statements and obstruction of a congressional proceeding, led the FBI when it began an investigation into ties between Trump's 2016 campaign and the Russian government. Comey has professed his innocence and vowed to fight the case in court.—RT/Agency

Miracle at Sea: 24 Pakistanis Cheat Death in Israeli Drone Strike on LPG Tanker

ISLAMABAD: The Foreign Office has confirmed that all 24 Pakistanis aboard a liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tanker attacked and set ablaze in Yemen are safe.

The incident occurred on 17 September when the vessel, docked at Ras Issa port under the control of Houthi rebels, came under attack from an Israeli drone. A total of 27 crew members were on board, including 24 Pakistanis, two Sri Lankans, and one Nepali. The captain of the tanker was also

Pakistani. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said the drone strike caused an LPG tank to explode, sparking a fire on the ship. The crew managed to bring the flames under control, but the vessel was subsequently stopped by Houthi boats and the crew was held hostage aboard the tanker. According to the Foreign Office, as soon as the incident was reported, Pakistani embassies in the region established contact with Yemeni authorities to ensure the safety of the crew.—RT/Agency

Government of Sindh's Commitment

PROSPERITY OF OUR FARMERS

The Government of Sindh has launched a historic Wheat Growers Support Program worth

55.9 BILLION

for the farmers.

Under this program, farmers owning 1 to 25 acres of the land will be provided one bag of DAP and two bags of Urea per acre free of cost. The registration process for this important initiative has officially started.

Wheat Growers Support Program

- Package worth Rs. 55.9 billion
- More than 400,000 farmers to benefit
- 2.26 million acres of land included
- Transparent system: Digital registration, Biometric verification
- Verification of land records through the Agriculture Extension & Board of Revenue portal

Registration through Benazir Hari Card, CNIC, and Land Revenue Portal. Our teams are reaching farmers for their registration, while farmers can also visit the nearest Agriculture Extension Office to get them registered.

Prosperous Farmers, Prosperous Nation

Government of Sindh

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THE HEARTLAND



Former CM Qaim Ali Shah Pays Respects at Lal Shahbaz Qalandar's Shrine in Sehwan

SEHWAN SHARIF: In a humble and unannounced visit, former Sindh Chief Minister and senior politician Syed Qaim Ali Shah Jilani visited the shrine of Hazrat Lal Shahbaz Qalandar (RA) in Sehwan. The veteran leader, who has served three terms as Sindh's CM and holds the Nishan-e-Imtiaz award, offered prayers and laid a ceremonial chadar at the shrine. Unlike typical visits by prominent figures, Shah arrived without any official protocol or large security detail, accompanied only by his personal secretary Mazhar Hussain, press spokesperson Ayub Abro, and driver Ayaz Hajano. Devotees were pleasantly surprised by his



modest approach and many took selfies with him. His visit was praised as a reflection of his simplicity, dignity, and deep respect for the spiritual heritage of Sehwan.—RT

Shahpur Chakar Boils as Pension Reform Protests Hit Fifth Day



By Aftab Hussain Mallah

SHAHPUR CHAKAR: Protests against pension reforms continued for the fifth consecutive day, with GSTA, APCA, health, irrigation, and other departments staging rallies, locking government offices, and holding sit-ins. Leaders including Professor Abdul Hameed Dahri and Dr. Jahanzaib Soomro condemned the pension reforms. Health workers highlighted unpaid pensions and allowances worsening their hardships. Protesters demanded immediate withdrawal of reforms and warned of expanded protests if demands are unmet.

PPP Minority Leader Sunil Kumar Lauds Indus Hospital Badin for Serving the Needy

TALHAR: Indus Hospital in Badin is a vital resource for free healthcare services to the poor. The hospital's skilled doctors work 24/7, offering free medicines, diagnostic tests, and ultrasounds. Dr. Sikandar Memon, in-charge of the hospital, met with PPP Minority Wing leader Sunil Kumar and highlighted the hospital's operation under Sindh Health Department support. He urged the public to protect this impor-



tant facility. Sunil Kumar praised the hospital's excellent services and said the PPP and Sindh government remain committed to public welfare, with Indus Hospital helping numerous underprivileged patients daily.—RT

Thatta Police Nab Seven in Shocking Jakhro Community Murder Case

By Mohammad Khan Memon

THATTA: Police have arrested seven suspects in connection with a murder arising from a marriage dispute within the Jakhro community near Jhimpir. On September 24, a violent clash broke out at Aanri Makaan, where suspects opened fire, killing Khan Jakhro and injuring others. The deceased was taken to Civil Hospital Makli, while the injured were treated at Rural Health Center Jhirki



and later referred to Civil Hospital Hyderabad. SSP Thatta Farooq Ahmed Bijarani formed a special team that arrested the suspects, who confessed during initial interrogation. The SSP praised the team's effective operation.

Shahdadt Kot Paralyzed as Govt Employees' Strike Enters Fifth Day

SHAHDADKOT: On the call of the Sindh Employees Alliance, government employees from various departments observed a complete strike for the fifth consecutive day, demanding the reversal of pension cuts, payment of DRA allowance, and approval of the charter of demands. Offices and institutions, including primary, secondary, higher secondary schools, colleges, civil hospitals, and revenue offices, remained



locked. OPDs in government hospitals also stayed closed, causing difficulties for patients. GSTA leaders vowed to continue their peaceful protest until their demands are met.—RT

Love Marriage Couple Begs for Protection Amid Death Threats in Hyderabad

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: Fida Hussain, son of Muhammad Sharif from Chhalgari village, Hyderabad, has married Mirzadi, daughter of Ghulam Mustafa Laghari, through the District and Sessions Court Hyderabad. Following the marriage, the couple faced serious threats from Mirzadi's family members, including her father Ghulam Mustafa Laghari, Ghulam Abbas Laghari, Ghulam Rasool



Laghari, and others. The newlyweds expressed fears for their lives and demanded protection and justice from Hyderabad Police, SSP, and DIG. The couple appealed for safety after their love marriage caused hostility within the family.

Drug Mafia Targets Pithoro Press Club President, FIR Lodged

By Muhammad Bachai

UMERKOT: A case has been registered against drug dealers who attacked Zavar Banglani, President of Pithoro Press Club. The incident took place near Raja Road Stop, where Zavar Banglani and his friends were assaulted by accused Nawaz Banglani and Mir Banglani, causing severe injuries and tearing his clothes. Despite the FIR filed at Sufi Qargi Police Station, no arrests have been made yet. Police officials claim efforts are underway to apprehend the culprits. Journalists in the area express serious concerns over their



safety, condemning drug dealers' violent acts and warning of intensified protests if justice is delayed.

Gunmen Loot Milk Trader in Brazen Badin Robbery

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: A milk trader was robbed at gunpoint near Indus Road, Badin. Early morning, after delivering

milk to hotels, Azam Dars was heading to Indus and Sikandar Mandhar Hospitals with 60 kilograms of milk when three armed motorcyclists stopped him. They hijacked three milk cans, his motorcycle, and cash before fleeing towards the city. The trader filed a complaint, but police have yet to apprehend the robbers.

Ghotki Erupts as Govt Employees Demand Urgent Economic Relief



By Shad Mahar

GHOTKI: On the call of Sindh Employees Alliance, protests and rallies were held across all five tehsils of Ghotki district including Khan Garh, Ghotki, Mirpur Mathelo, Daharki, and Ubaro. Employees have been protesting for five consecutive days, shutting down offices and schools. They accused the Sindh government of economic oppression, including pension deductions under pension rules, denial of DRA allowance, and other anti-employee policies. Leaders demanded PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari to revoke these policies and accept their demands, warning that the protest movement will continue otherwise.

Al Habib Cricket Club Final Thrills: Azad Eleven Clash with Adab Ali Abro XI



By Tahir Javed Panhwar

PIARO STATION: The Al Habib Cricket Club tournament final was held with great enthusiasm at Piaro Station, featuring six competing teams. In the final, Adab Ali Abro's team battled first and scored 100 runs for 7 wickets in 8 overs, thanks to Muzammil Panhwar's brilliant 50 off 24 balls. Azad Eleven replied with 70 runs for 5 wickets but fell short. UC Chairman Syed Athar Hussain Shah and other dignitaries encouraged players during the match.

HESCO Unleashes Massive Crackdown on Hyderabad Electricity Theft

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Under the special directives of HESCO Chief Operating Officer Aijaz Ahmed Shaikh, a large-scale operation against electricity theft is underway in Hyderabad. Supervised by Director S&I Asadullah Pirzada and SDO Gul Rehman Kakar, a crackdown in Latifabad No. 2's Allama Iqbal Sub-Division, Paretabad, and Phuleli led to the disconnection of 259 illegal electricity connections. COO Aijaz Ahmed Shaikh emphasized a zero-tolerance policy toward electricity theft, labeling it a national crime causing billions in losses annually. The HESCO administration urged citizens to report theft cases promptly to help protect national resources.

Tragedy in River as Three Sisters Drown Trying to Save One Another

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: In a tragic incident near the riverbank area of Dodo Kalhoro village, three sisters lost their lives while saving each other from drowning. The sisters, Amna, Zubaira, and Humaira, daughters of villager Muhammad Ayub Kalhoro, were returning home from shopping when the youngest slipped and fell into the river. In an act of extraordinary love and sacrifice, the other two sisters tried to rescue her but all three drowned in the strong currents. Their bodies were recovered by locals and buried in the nearby Matayari cemetery. The family and village are in deep mourning over this heartbreaking loss, which also stands as a poignant example of sibling love and sacrifice.

Dr. Allah Rakhio Junejo Receives Prestigious Future Leaders Award 2025

By Munawar Chaudhry

JAMSHORO: Engineer Dr. Allah Rakhio Junejo has been awarded the prestigious Future Leaders Award 2025 at ITCN Asia, Karachi. Selected from over 500 Pakistani nominees and millions across Asia, Dr. Junejo was recognized for his outstanding contributions to engineering, technology, and research. His leadership in advancing innovation, Artificial Intelligence, and education highlights Pakistan's global potential. This honor reflects both his dedication and the strength of Pakistan's academic community on the international stage.



Coach Carrying Lal Shahbaz Devotees Crashes Near Khairpur, Panic Ensues

By Naeem Ahmed Shaikh

KHAIRPUR: A major accident was narrowly averted near Khairpur on the National Highway within the jurisdiction of the Session Police Station, Waris Gambhir area. A coach carrying devotees of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar suffered a tire burst, causing the driver to lose control. The vehicle veered off and came to a halt against the wall of a canal along the road.



Remarkably, all passengers escaped unharmed from the Punjab towards Sehwan when the accident occurred.

Hundreds March in Sehwan as Pension Reform Protests Gain Momentum

By Qaimuddin Memon

SEHWAN SHARIF: Hundreds of government employees in Sehwan held a large protest organized by the Sindh Employees Alliance demanding the withdrawal of pension reforms and protection of employees' rights. Offices and schools remained closed as protesters blocked Station Road and Dargah Road despite the intense heat. Leaders including Muhammad Bakhsh Rind and Ali Nawaz Solangi condemned



the government's refusal to will be held in front of B- issue notifications despite Bilawal House on October 6. Leaders including Muhammad Bakhsh Rind and Ali Nawaz Solangi condemned are not met, a larger sit-in cepted

REGIONAL TIMES

NATIONAL

CM Maryam Unveils Bold Reform Agenda to Navy War College Delegation

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif on Saturday met with participants of the 55th Staff Course of the Pakistan Navy War College. During the meeting, the delegation was briefed on the government's initiatives and ongoing development programs.

The delegation included officers from Pakistan's three armed forces and officers from the armed forces of 15 friendly countries. The



delegation was led by Rear Admiral Sohail Ahmed Azmi.

Maryam Nawaz welcomed the visiting delegation and reiterated her support for the Palestinian

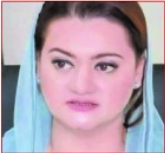
people, appreciating the inclusion of Palestinian officers in the delegation. She also lauded the Pakistan Navy for its assistance during flood relief efforts.—RT/Agency

Punjab Minister Touts High-Tech Air Quality Forecast Breakthrough

LAHORE: Provincial minister Maryam Aurangzeb on Saturday said that a modern air quality forecast system has been prepared in Punjab.

The system will forecast weather conditions and air pollution, and it will help to keep pollution down in big cities of the province.

Senior provincial minister said that an air pollution



report will be released on every week.

The air forecasting sys-

tem has been a combination of the real time monitoring and modern scientific modules and works according to modern air index and local requirement, Aurangzeb said.

The air quality forecasting system will also include the data of the modern monitoring stations installed this year, Punjab minister said.—RT/Agency

Karachi Exposed: Gender Gap in Voter Registration Among Nation's Worst

ISLAMABAD: Out of 144 districts nationwide, 31 show a shocking gender gap of 10% to 29% between male and female voters. Alarmingly, three of these districts are in Karachi, with discrepancies ranging from 12.39%

to 15.34%. To tackle this imbalance, the Election Commission has launched its fifth special campaign across 62 districts—including 24 in Punjab, 16 in Sindh, 13 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 8 in Balochistan, and Islam-

abad—to boost female voter registration. Currently, out of 134.9 million registered voters, men make up 53.62% while women account for only 46.38%, leaving a staggering gap of over 9.7 million voters.—RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

MONEY

Gold Fever: Tola Price Nears Rs400,000 After Rs1,900 Surge

KARACHI: A major spike hit gold prices across the country as rates soared by Rs. 1,900 per tola, bringing the new price to Rs. 397,700. According to the All Pakistan Gems and Jewellers Association, the price of 10 grams also surged by Rs. 1,629, reaching Rs. 340,963. This sharp in-



crease comes in response to a global market jump,

where the price of gold rose by \$19, pushing it to \$3,759 per ounce. The sudden hike has sparked concerns among buyers and investors alike, as domestic rates inch closer to record highs. Market watchers expect continued volatility in the coming.—Agency

METRO

KARACHI

PCML Delivers 10,000 Relief Packages to Flood-Hit Families from Karachi

By Dildar Seeloo

KARACHI: The Pakistan Central Muslim League has dispatched 10,000 ration bags, clothing, and utensils from Karachi to assist flood-affected families. Sindh President Faisal Nadeem and Karachi President Ahmed Nadeem Awan stated at the relief camp that the PCML has been actively engaged in relief efforts since day one and will continue its struggle until full rehabilitation of the



victims. Faisal Nadeem shared that various measures have been taken to help flood victims in affected areas, including clearing debris, providing

cash aid to widows, restoring schools and water supply, establishing model tent settlements, and relocating over 75,000 people to safe places.

Sindh Govt Rolls Out Massive Rs58bn Support Plan for Wheat Farmers

KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Agriculture Sardar Muhammad Bux Mahar has unveiled the Wheat Growers Support Policy, terming it a "historic initiative" to provide immediate relief to small-scale wheat farmers. The policy aims to support farmers owning between one and 25 acres of land, with the government allocating Rs58 billion for the scheme.

Under the package, 411,000 farmers will receive fertilizer and urea to

cultivate 2.26 million acres of wheat across Sindh. Each farmer will be given Rs24,700 worth of inputs per acre. Registration will be carried out through the Benazir Hari Card database, CNICs, and land revenue records, with committees set up at provincial, district, and local levels to monitor the process.

According to Mahar, distribution of DAP fertilizer will be completed by November 2025, while two additional bags of urea

will be provided after January 20, 2026, following verification of cultivation. To ensure smooth implementation, agricultural officers' leaves have been cancelled for 90 days and officials will remain open on Saturdays.

He said these steps were being taken under the directives of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, adding that Sindh remains the only province providing consistent subsidies to farmers despite IMF restrictions.—RT/Agency

Port Qasim Cracks Global Top 10 in World Bank's Most Advanced Ports List

ISLAMABAD: In a major recognition for Pakistan, the World Bank has ranked Port Qasim as the 9th most advanced port in the world, marking a significant milestone in the country's maritime sector. Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry, called the achievement a national honor, crediting it to the government's reforms and modernization

efforts. He praised Qasim International Container Terminal (QICT) for playing a vital role in enhancing operational standards. The minister reaffirmed his commitment to bringing port operations up to global benchmarks, adding that Pakistan is rapidly emerging as a regional shipping hub, which will boost investor confidence and economic growth.—RT/Agency

Kotri Barrage Crisis: Surging Water Engulfs Villages, Destroys Crops

LAHORE, MULTAN, SUKKUR: The water inflow at Kotri Barrage on the Indus River continues to rise, causing water to enter nearby villages and destroying rice and other crops.

In the past 24 hours, the water flow increased by 12,000 cusecs, bringing the total flow to 420,000 cusecs. According to the Flood Forecasting Division Lahore,

a moderate flood persists at Kotri Barrage. Mangla Dam is nearing capacity, while other rivers have returned to normal flow. Due to the flood situation at Kotri Barrage, more villages in the low-lying areas of Thatta have been submerged. As a result, hundreds of acres of rice, cotton, banana, papaya, and other crops have been severely damaged.—RT/Agency

Firdous Ashiq Awan Taunts Saim Ayub: Stop Playing Like a Winter Egg-Eater, Play Real Cricket

ISLAMABAD: Istikhkam-e-Pakistan Party leader Firdous Ashiq Awan took a jibe at Pakistani cricketer Saim Ayub over his poor performance in the Asia Cup, urging him to break free from fear and play his natural aggressive game. "Saim, it's not even winter yet that you're playing like

you're just eating eggs. Step out and perform!" she said. Awan criticized Ayub for getting out timidly, adding that his fear-driven short selections are not reflective of his true caliber. "If you get out after hitting a few big shots, we'll still be satisfied. But going back on the first.—RT/Agency

BALUCHISTAN HEARTLAND

Akhtar Bibi Rises as New Power Player: PML-N Women Wing Balochistan Chief

By Abdul Aziz Bangulzai

BOLAN/BHAG: Akhtar Bibi, newly elected General Secretary of Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N) Women Wing Balochistan and Member of National Assembly, expressed gratitude for the trust and confidence shown by party leader Nawaz Sharif in assigning her this important role. She highlighted the vital role of women in PML-N and vowed to empower Balochistan's women politically and socially.



Akhtar Bibi committed to raising women's voices in legislative assemblies and working tirelessly to address their issues, strengthening the party's development efforts in the province.

Commissioner Nasirabad Pays Tribute to Shaheed Mohsin Awan's Legacy



By Abdul Aziz Bangulzai

BOLAN/BHAG: Commissioner Nasirabad Division, Salahuddin Noorazi, along with the family members of martyred Levies personnel Muhammad Mohsin Awan including his father Raees Muhammad Panah Awan and brothers Mukhtiar Ahmad Awan and Zubair Ahmad

Awan offered prayers and condolences. The commissioner praised Muhammad Mohsin Awan's sacrifice for public protection and assured that his sacrifice will not be in vain. He expressed solidarity with the bereaved family during this difficult time and vowed to honor the martyr's legacy.

Dr. Baig Honored at Power-Packed Finance Gathering



KARACHI: Karachi witnessed a high-profile finance huddle as Dr. Mirza Ikhtiar Baig, Member National Assembly and NA Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue & Commerce, received a prestigious memento from Zahid Latif, former President Islamabad Stock Exchange, and PMEX Director Aftab

Ahmed Chaudhry. The ceremony drew top names including CBO Zaki-ur-Rehman, Dr. Amjad Waheed, CEO NBP Funds, President Habib Bank Muhammad Nasseem Salim, and Sindh Government spokesperson Nadir Gabol—marking a showcase of Pakistan's financial leadership under one roof.—RT

Central Punjab

Illegal Fuel Mafia Crushed in Crackdown on Petrol Pumps & LPG Outlets in Narowal

By Rana Mudassar



NAROWAL: Following directives from Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, authorities in Narowal have intensified actions against illegal mini petrol pumps and LPG refilling stations to safeguard public safety. Deputy Commissioner Syed Hassan Raza supervised the crackdown, with District Civil Defense Officer Farhana Aziz inspecting sites and enforcing regulations.

Fire safety equipment checks were conducted, tolerated, pledging continued strict enforcement to protect lives and property across the district.

Free Four-Day Health Fair to Open in Gojra by Masoor Welfare Council

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Masoor Welfare Council Gojra is organizing a free four-day Health Fair from September 28 to October 1 at Masoor Welfare Complex, Physiotherapy Camp

Pensra Road. The event features specialized camps each day: Eye Operation Camp (Sept 28), Gynecology of Hafiz Muhammad Abbas Ali and other national Awareness Camp (Sept 30), and aims to serve the community with essential healthcare services.

Narowal Food Authority Declares War on Substandard Food, Launches Awareness Drive

By Rana Mudassar



NAROWAL: Following Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's "Healthy Punjab Mission," the Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has initiated a comprehensive awareness campaign to ensure quality food supply, especially meat in Narowal. Under the guidance of Director General PFA and supervision of Deputy Director Operations, the Narowal operations team visited poultry and grocery vendors citywide. The cam-

paign focused on promoting practical advice and eduhygienic practices, including pamphlets and checklists, to help maintain food safety standards and ensure customers receive high-quality products.

Global Experts Gather: 2nd Int'l Vascular Anomalies Seminar at Gujranwala Medical College

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar



GUJRANWALA: The Pakistan Society of Vascular Anomalies hosted its Second International Seminar on September 27, 2025, at Aziz Khan Auditorium. National and international experts, including Prof. Dr. Aftab Mohsen, Prof. Dr. Javed Akram, and Senator Dr. Asad Ashraf, delivered lectures on modern research. Doctors from Pakistan and the US participated both physically and online. Principal Dr. Iqbal Hussain Dogar high-

lighted the seminar's role in advancing scientific awareness. A Rare Disorders Clinic will soon be established at Gujranwala Medical College in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Javed Akram to benefit local patients. Attendees pledged to promote world-class treatment and research in vascular anomalies.

Toba Tek Singh Sees Sweeping Anti-Encroachment Blitz

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: Following Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's orders, an anti-encroachment drive is underway in Toba Tek Singh, supervised by Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Naeem Sindhu and led by Punjab Enforcement Regulatory Authority (PERA). Sub-Divisional Enforcement Officer Sadaf Irshad reported that many shop-

keepers removed their encroachments after no-tice, improving public pathways and provide relief to citizens.

Punjab Food Authority Ignites Safety Drive in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the directives of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the Punjab Food Authority has initiated a district-wide campaign to promote safe, hygienic, and halal food in Toba Tek Singh. Led by Deputy Director Yasir Mushtaq and supervised by Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Naeem Sindhu, teams distributed awareness pamphlets

to butchers, shopkeepers, and the public, emphasizing purchase from licensed slaughterhouses and checking expiry dates. The campaign also in-

EDITORIAL

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

Sunday, September 28, 2025

Underdogs or Broken Giants? Pakistan's Date With Destiny Against Arrogant India

For years now, Pakistan cricket has been a heartbreak machine — full of promise but delivering mostly frustration. Today, however, brings a rare chance to flip the script. In Dubai, under the glare of a global audience, Pakistan faces its fiercest rival, India, in the Asia Cup final. It is their third meeting in two weeks, and the record could not be more lopsided: India has won both contests convincingly and is riding an intimidating seven-match streak over Pakistan.

India, with Abhishek Sharma blazing at the top and a spin attack suffocating opponents in the middle overs, have looked unstoppable. Their swagger, their depth, and their unbeaten march

make them clear favourites. Pakistan, on the



other hand, has staggered into this final with flashes of brilliance but a trail of inconsistency. For many, this imbalance has sucked the life out of what was once sport's most electrifying rivalry.

Yet, therein lies the beauty of cricket's unpredictability. One inspired spell, one gutsy innings, one fearless chase — that is all it takes for Pakistan to transform despair into delirium. Captain

Salman Agha's men already proved their resilience in the thrilling win over Bangladesh. Today, with the trophy at stake, they must summon the same defiance against India's arrogance and firepower. A Pakistan victory would not only end the barren run against India but also rekindle belief in a team accused of failing its fans. It would be the ultimate underdog story — the mercurial side finally delivering on the grandest stage. Cricket, after all, thrives on rivalries that are competitive, not one-sided. A triumph today can restore that balance, and more importantly, heal a nation's battered sporting pride. For Pakistan, the Asia Cup final is more than a match. It is redemption waiting to be seized.

THE HEARTLAND



Naushehro Feroze Chairman Criticizes Striking Employees, Urges Return to Work

By Hasnain Shahid

NAUSHEHRO FEROZE: Chairman of Naushehro Feroze Municipal Committee, Dr. Kashif Mustafa Memon, stated that the protesting employees are making unnecessary noise for their personal interests and called them duty evaders and slackers. He made these remarks while supervising a mosquito spray campaign in the city to combat the rising mosquito problem. He said that no matter how hard



these slackers try, he will not be blackmailed. With the increase in the budget, all employees' salaries will be raised along with pen-

sions and other benefits. He added that after the closure of protest camps, the employees have become confused and are not ready to perform their duties. Dr. Kashif Mustafa Memon further warned the employees that the time has not yet come, and he urges them to end the protest voluntarily, come back, and serve their duties honestly to provide halal earnings for their families and help keep the city clean and provide a better environment for the citizens.

Digri Shuts Down as Sindh Employees Alliance Strike Hits Fifth Day



By Farooq Randhawa

DIGRI: The strike by government employees in Digri and surrounding villages, called by the Sindh Employees Alliance, continued on its fifth and final day. Offices and schools remained closed, including government boys' primary schools, with rallies led by Ms. Asma Sardar from Sindh

Medium. Hundreds of employees protested, boycotting OPDs at government hospitals and closing offices. Protesters condemned Sindh government's policies for the shutdowns and demanded their repeal. Leaders vowed a massive sit-in outside Bilawal House on October 6 to end what they call "unjust laws" affecting employees' rights.

Sindh Govt Employees Warn of Indefinite Strike Over Unmet Demands

By Munawar Chaudhry

JAMSHORO: Hundreds of Sindh government employees protested under the Sindh Employees Alliance, demanding acceptance of pending rights and allowances. They threatened a complete work-stoppage and lockdown until their demands are

met. Leaders criticized the provincial government's apathy, accusing political figures of ignoring employees' issues. Key demands include pension reforms and restoration of allowances. The protest highlights growing frustration and warns of prolonged strikes across Sindh.

PS-12 Larkana's Development Gains Pace as Shahruxh Siyal Reviews Progress

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Under the directives of former Provincial Home Minister and MPA Suhail Anwar Siyal, a comprehensive development plan has been laid out in PS-12, with rapid progress underway. Shah Rukh Anwar Siyal, brother of MPA Suhail Anwar Siyal and Chairman of Derry Town, visited areas including Rand Colony and Khalik Colony to review ongoing development work. He inspected the streets alongside officials from



the Public Health Engineering Department and instructed them to complete the projects promptly. Shah Rukh Anwar Siyal stated that the PPP Sindh government is committed to providing essential facilities to the people at their doorstep. Union Council chairmen and local dignitaries also accompanied him during the visit.

Sujawal Sees Massive Rally as Employees Protest Pension Cuts

By Kamran Hidayat

SUJAWAL: The Sindh Employees Alliance, led by District President Ghulam Qadir Baghi, organized a protest rally from Qasmi Petrol Pump to Public Park against pension cuts, non-payment of differential allowance, and group insurance. Hundreds of government employees from education, health, and revenue departments participated. During the protest, Ghulam Qadir fainted due to extreme heat. Leaders demanded a



50% payment of disparity allowance, full group insurance and benevolent fund benefits, and a 70% salary increase. They warned of a sit-in at Bilawal House, Karachi on October 6 if demands remain unmet. Meanwhile, locals urged the Sindh government to address employees' demands and restore education and hospital OPD services.

Rescue 1122 Heroes Honored in Grand Hyderabad Ceremony

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: A grand ceremony was held at Rescue 1122 Station to honor the bravery and dedication of the Rescue team. Organized by Javed Iqbal, Secretary of Traffic Road and Safety Management, the event began with Quran recitation and the national anthem, followed by prayers for the nation's safety. Distinguished guests included Lt. Col (Retd) Sardar Ali Shah and Deputy Commissioner Zain-ul-Abidin Memon. Speakers praised the



Rescue team's sacrifices and service in protecting lives. Al-Khidmat Foundation donated two rescue boats, and Hajjani Hospital offered free medical treatment for rescue personnel. A free English course was also announced to enhance skills. Outstanding officers received appreciation shields, and cultural Ajraks were presented to guests, symbolizing Sindh's rich heritage. The event celebrated Rescue 1122's vital role in the community.

Clash in Naushehro: Cops Injured in Raid on Notorious Criminal

By Hassnain Shahid

NAUSHEHRO FEROZE: Police conducted a raid in Khushki village to arrest wanted criminal Munawar alias Munu, involved

in over 20 cases. Armed accomplices resisted violently, injuring two police officers, Majeed-ur-Rehman and Oshaq Shah, who were hospitalized. Majeed's condition is critical and he was referred to Nawabshah. The attackers freed the accused and escaped. SSP Ruhail Khan Khoso confirmed police are safe and assured strict action against the attackers and the accused.

SSGC Busts Gas Theft Mafia in Shikarpur, Power Rackets Exposed

SHIKARPUR: In a major anti-gas theft operation, SSGC teams raided multiple locations across Larkana, Shikarpur, and Jacobabad, uncovering illegal use of domestic gas for power generation. At Plaza Cinema Shikarpur, Rasheed Ahmed Burro was caught red-handed using gas to run a 15KW generator, supplying power to shops and his hotel. Another offender, Abdul Hafeez Memon, operated 15KW and 20KW generators using gas from three domestic



meters, dangerously storing gas in massive plastic balloons. Meanwhile, Mushtaq Hussain Abbasi was found illegally using gas for his bakery. All illegal connections were severed, with legal action underway. SSGC warns against such hazardous practices.—RT

Sindh SPSF Veteran Hyder Khan Laghari Remembered in Sanghar Tribute

By Khadim Hussain Khaskheli

SANGHAR: A simple ceremony was held at People's House Lal Khan Laghari to mark the anniversary of the late Hyder Khan Laghari, former senior vice president of SPSF Sindh. Speaking at the event, PPP Youth Wing Sindh President and PPP Shaheed Benazirabad Division General Secretary Javed Nayab Laghari praised Hyder Khan Laghari's significant political contributions. He said that during times when raising the PPP flag in Sanghar was con-



sidered a crime, Hyder Khan Laghari bravely fought for the party's cause. The event was attended by prominent PPP leaders, including Raja Aftab Laghari, Rais Sadiq Khan Laghari, Chairman Saeen Bakhs Laghari, and others. The ceremony concluded with the distribution of charity meals in the memory of the late leader.

SSP Larkana Vows Tough Action on Civic Woes After Meeting Public Leaders



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: SSP Larkana, Ahmed Faisal Chaudhry met with leaders of Awami Shihri Ittehad to discuss pressing civic problems. The delegation highlighted issues like heavy trucks entering the city, tinted vehicle windows, and police conduct. SSP Chaudhry assured strict enforcement, banning large trucks during

mornings, removing illegal sirens, and ensuring police checkpoints are strengthened. He emphasized ongoing operations against criminals and drug dealers, with 14 dangerous criminals neutralized so far. The SSP pledged to enhance law and order through modern policing techniques, promising a safer and peaceful Larkana. The leaders thanked him for his commitment.

Mother and Stepfather Arrested for Murder of Six-Year-Old in Hyderabad

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Chhargari Police have arrested the mother and stepfather of a six-year-old boy, Muhammad Ali alias Saqib Ali, in connection with his murder in

village Mewo Hajano. The case was registered under FIR No. 38/2025 after the child was found dead two days ago. During the investigation, the mother Sania and her husband Baqir Hajano confessed to strangling the boy due to personal disputes and financial stress. Medical reports confirmed strangulation. Further legal proceedings are underway.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND



Jacobabad Braces as Sindh Employees Alliance Continues Pension Protest

By Hashim Brohi

JACOBABAD: On the call of the Sindh Employees Alliance, government employees staged a protest rally from Municipal High School to DC Chowk, where it turned into a sit-in. A large number of female employees participated, demanding the withdrawal of pension reforms. Speakers, including GSTA President Naseeb



ullah Khoso, criticized the reforms as an attack on employee rights and called for DRA allowance for all departments. Protesters vowed to continue their struggle until their demands are met.

Outrage in Badin as Influential Man Brutally Assaults Child

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: An influential representative, Noor Ahmed Soomro, brutally assaulted an innocent child, Mumtaz Ali, over a trivial matter in Jharkandi village near Badin. The accused severely beat the boy and injured his head with a motorcycle rim. The critically injured child was first taken to Badin DHQ hospital and

later referred to Hyderabad for advanced treatment. The victim's father, Umar Soomro, has accused the police of delay and negligence, claiming the accused is using his influence to avoid arrest. He has appealed to higher authorities for immediate justice. Villagers are demanding strict action from the administration against the perpetrator.

Tando Allahyar Workers Rally Against Pension Cuts, Demand Rights

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: A large rally was held in Tando Allahyar, organized by PTA, Employees Alliance, protesting pension cuts and other demands. The march started from Sindh Primary School and proceeded to Latif Gate, with numerous teachers and department leaders participating. PTA and Employees Alliance leaders, including Amina Taher



Qambrani and others, accused the Sindh Chief Minister of ignoring their five-day-long protests. They vowed to continue protests until demands are met, warning of a massive gathering at Bilawal House on October 6.

PPP Dadu Opens Organization Drive Under Barrister Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq

By Javed Laghari

DADU: Following the directives of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Pakistan Peoples Party District Dadu has commenced the submission of organization forms. Led by District President Barrister Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq, General Secretary Fayaz Ali Khan But, and Information Secretary Mir Saddam Baloch, workers from all constituencies are



submitting their forms. Several PPP leaders including Imdad Dawach and Shahmir Chohan were also present during the event.

Thul Offices Locked Down as APCA Escalates Protest



By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: On the third consecutive day, members of APCA (All Pakistan Clerks Association) continued their protest in Thul by locking the offices of the male and female departments and wearing black armbands. The demonstration

was led by APCA Sindh Provincial President Bux Ali Chachar and District President Imran Khan Jakhani. Among the participants were Larkana Division leaders Faqir Muhammad Saleem Daji, Imdad Ali Dayo, Haji Shehbaz Ali Jaffari, Hafeezullah Dayo, and others.

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: In a district-wide crackdown, Badin Police arrested 7 suspects, including an absconder, seized thousands of harmful gutka sachets, and recovered a stolen motorcycle. SHO

Matli, Arif Jarwar, recovered 24,200 gutka sachets and arrested two drug peddlers. Another suspect was caught with 4,400 sachets. A woman was arrested in Tando Ghulam Ali with 990 sachets. Raju Khanani Police recovered a stolen Honda 125 motorcycle. Badin Police arrested absconder Rashid Abro and another gutka seller with 300 sachets. In Talhar, 400 sachets were seized from Ilyas Mallah. Police have pledged continued action against narcotics and criminal elements.

Badin Police Arrest 7 Suspects, Recover Gutka and Stolen Bike

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MQM's Rashid Khan Slams Pension Cuts, Pledges Support to Strikers

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: MQM's Rashid Khan, Joint Incharge Hyderabad and MPA, has strongly condemned the Sindh government's controversial pension reforms, calling them a "policy of confrontation" with employees. Backing the province-wide protest movement, he accused the PPP of hypocrisy, claiming to support laborers while slashing pensions, group insurance, and gratuity. He demanded immediate withdrawal of the reforms and acceptance of early retirement requests. Rashid warned the crisis is turning political, and MQM will resist injustice in and outside the assembly, standing firmly against affected government workers.

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Qazi Ahmed School Crumbles: No Facilities, Classes Halted for Months

By Sajid Ali Unar

QAZI AHMED: In Haji Achar Jatoti village near Qazi Ahmed, the Government Primary School has been non-functional for the past three months due to the retirement of its only teacher. The school lacks furniture, solar fans, and other basic facilities, causing serious hardship for students. Villagers including Sain Bux Jatoti, Hussain Bux Jatoti, and



others urged the Sindh government and education minister to appoint teachers immediately and restore the school's operations.

Power to LCD Screens on Auto Bhan Road Sparks Concern

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: LCD screens installed along Auto Bhan Road are reportedly using electricity from government streetlight meters. This setup, according to sources, has raised questions about whether proper commercial billing is being applied. The SDO Hussainabad stated that the power supply to the screens will be disconnected until commercial meters are installed. Citizens have expressed concern over the matter, highlighting the need for equal treatment in such cases and urging authorities to review the situation fairly and transparently.



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Hattri Ghulam Shah Drug Dealer Caught with 1kg Hashish

By Waheed Ali Unar

BAKRANI: Hattri Ghulam Shah Police in Larkana arrested Head Constable Gulzar Jhatial. The accused has

from village Chhutto been sent to jail. A case (Crime No. 26/2025) has been registered under Section 9(iii)(C) of the CNS Act at H.G. Shah Police Station.

Court Marriage Turns Risky: Woman Seeks Protection From Threats

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: Sughra Bibi, 28, from Kaim Khan Gopang village, married Wazir Ali Ajan in Muzaffargarh court after her first husband's death. She accused her former in-laws of harassment and filing false cases against her family, including kidnapping and theft. Sughra has appealed to IG Sindh,



DIG Sukkur, and SSP Khairpur for her and her relatives' safety for protection, fearing safety.

Kandiario Employees Press On With Peaceful Protest Over Rights

By Usama Ayaz

KANDIARIO: A peaceful protest rally was held by Sindh Employees Alliance against the new

pension rules and disparity in allowance. Led by PTA leader Aziz Abbasi and others, the rally called the new policy unjust and harmful to employees. Protesters demanded equal Disparity Reduction Allowance for all and withdrawal of the province-wide protests if ignored.

Child Protection Seminar Highlights Urgent Reforms in Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: A significant orientation seminar on child protection was held at Gymkhana Badin, organized by the Social Welfare Department, Child Protection Authority, and UNICEF. Additional Director Abdul Ghaffar Khosa

chaired the event. UNICEF trainers Sheeraz Chandio and Mehvish Maria briefed participants on safeguarding children under 18, emphasizing education, health, and protection from abuse. Abdul Ghaffar Khosa highlighted the active role of Badin's Child Protection

Unit and called for joint efforts by parents, teachers, civil society, and government to address child abuse, child labor, early marriage, and lack of education. The seminar ended with thanks to all partners, aiming for continued collaboration to secure a better future for children.

Nawab Wali Muhammad Erupts in Protest Over Release of Transformer Thieves

By Yousuf Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: Villagers of Waryal Chando staged a protest against Nawab Wali Muhammad police for releasing arrested thieves involved in stealing transformers. Locals

including Ali Chandio, Ghulam Sarwar Chandio, and Mir Khalid Chandio demanded action from the IG Sindh. They said thieves had stolen parts of a 100 KV transformer from their village, two stolen transformers were recovered from different villages, and the culprits had confessed. However, the police released the accused without taking strict action. The protesters urged authorities to recover stolen property and punish the thieves, warning of wider protests if demands are ignored.



By Tahir Javed Panhwar

PIARO STATION: A prominent Sindh literary personality, former student leader, and key figure in Sindh Adabi Sangat Moro, Azeem Sindh, passed away after a prolonged illness at Liaquat National

Hospital, Karachi. His funeral was held in Moro, attended by Sindh Graduates Association (SGA) leaders, including Prof. Khalid Hussain Channa, Prof. Baksh Ali Chandio, Beeral Khan Khoso, and others, alongside political and social activists.

Polio Strikes Again: Case Confirmed in Mirpur Sakro

By Hyder Shah

MIRPUR SAKRO: A confirmed case of polio has been reported from Rehana Abad, Ward No-1, Thakar Mohalla. Six-year-old Iqra, daughter of Iqbal Khaskheli, fell ill on August 28. Polio samples were collected by the Thatta investigation team on September 5 and sent to Islamabad's Lab for testing. The lab has now confirmed the case and administering polio drops in the area.



Thatta and WHO representatives, are investigating the case and administering polio drops in the area.

Pension Showdown: Sindh Govt Employees Plan Sit-in at Bilawal House



By Sajid Ali Unar

QAZI AHMED: Government employees across Sindh staged protests led by the Sindh Employees Alliance in Qazi Ahmed against pension cuts and delay in DRA allowance. They demanded restoration of pension benefits, 70% DRA, 50% salary

hike, and group insurance payment at retirement. Protesters criticized the concerned authorities for misleading PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. They announced a major sit-in outside Bilawal House on October 6, vowing to continue protests until their demands are fulfilled.

Jati in Shock After Brutal Murder of 65-Year-Old Watchman

By AS Thahim

JATI: On Rajmalak Road near Bohar Golai, 65-year-old watchman Muhammad Juman Thahim was brutally stabbed to death by unknown assailants during the night. His body was

found dumped near a watercourse. Family members reported the body early morning. District Council member Azam Khan Malkani informed police, who recovered the body and took it to Jati hospital for post-mortem. PPP leaders and local officials visited the hospital. The victim's family denied any enmity and demanded swift arrest of the killers. Jati SHO Zahir Ahmed Solangi said 2-3 suspects are involved and investigation is underway.

Hyderabad's Sindh Awami Forum Protests Drugs and Gambling Menace

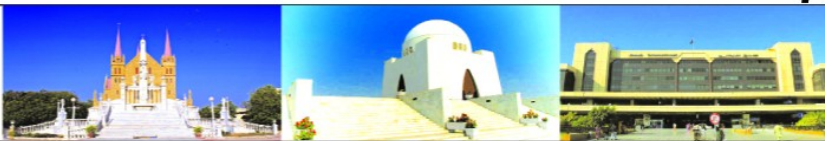
By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: Sindh Awami Forum Hyderabad organized a protest rally outside Hyderabad Press Club against the growing issues of drugs and gambling. Led by Comrade Akbar Jatoti, Habib Jatoti, Dr. Anwar Hajano, Dr. Hassan Laghari, Dr. Amrashi Thakur, and other leaders, participants condemned the open sale of drugs in the city, which has



reached colleges and universities, harming the youth. They also highlighted the surge in gambling, causing thefts and increasing lawlessness. The protesters demanded authorities to shut down drug and gambling dens and ensure justice for citizens.

METRO KARACHI



Nasir Shah Promises Karachi Makeover Under Bilawal's Bold Vision

KARACHI: Sindh Local Government Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah reaffirmed Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's vision to transform Karachi with modern infrastructure and public facilities. During a meeting with Kiamari Town Chairman Humayoon Khan at Ali House, Shah announced rapid upgrades to roads, drainage, parks, and recreation areas. He stressed the urgency of mass trans-



sit, clean water, sewerage, and waste management projects. Calling Karachi the "economic heartbeat of Pakistan," Shah declared its development vital for the nation's progress.—RT

Haider Abbas Rizvi Tears Into Sindh Govt as Hub Canal Crumbles in Rains

KARACHI: MQM-Pakistan leader Haider Abbas Rizvi has slammed the Sindh government after the newly constructed Hub Canal was washed away during recent rains. Rizvi criticized the provincial administration for poor planning, substandard

construction, and lack of accountability in development projects. "This is yet another example of taxpayers' money going down the drain—literally," he said, demanding a full investigation into the collapse. The incident has raised serious

concerns over infrastructure quality and transparency in Sindh's development works. Residents in affected areas are also facing water shortages as a result of the canal's damage, further fueling public frustration.—RT/Agency

Tragedy in the Skies: Passenger Dies Mid-Flight, Jet Forced to Land in Karachi

KARACHI: A flight from Dubai to Faisalabad made an emergency landing in Karachi after a passenger fell seriously ill and later died onboard. According to airport officials, the plane was near Larkana when the passenger suddenly lost consciousness. The pilot promptly informed Karachi Air Traffic Control and diverted the flight to Karachi. Upon landing, the medical emergency team rushed to provide immedi-

ate aid, but unfortunately, the passenger had already passed away. The incident has raised questions about in-flight medical preparedness and emergency response protocols.—RT/Agency

Sindh Govt to Federal Firm: Keep Your Hands Off Our Projects

KARACHI: The Sindh government has issued a stern directive to the federal company, Pakistan Infrastructure Development Company Limited (PIDCL), instructing it to immediately halt work on provincial development schemes. In an official let-

ter, the Sindh government declared PIDCL's involvement in urban package projects as illegal, stating that the company is only authorized to complete the former Pak-WPD projects. The letter emphasized that implementation of the Karachi and Hyderabad

Urban Infrastructure Development Packages falls solely under the provincial government's jurisdiction. Sindh authorities warned PIDCL to avoid overstepping its mandate, calling any interference a violation of the agreed federal-provincial.—RT/Agency

Karachi University Drops Bombshell: Justice Jahangiri's Law Degree Axed

KARACHI: The University of Karachi officially cancelled the LLB result and degree of Islamabad High Court judge Tariq Mehmoed Jahangiri, son of Qazi Muhammad Akram, following findings of academic misconduct.



The university has also withdrawn recognition of his result.

According to the notice, based on the resolution passed during the Syndicate meeting held on August 31, 2024, and recommendations of the Unfair Means Com-

mittee, Tariq Mehmoed was found guilty of using unfair means during his academic pursuits. As a result, he was debarred from admission to any college or university for three years.

The circular further states that Tariq was never offi-

cially a student of Islamia Law College, Karachi, and his LLB enrollment number AIL-7124/87 has also been revoked by the Assistant Registrar. Consequently, his exam seat number 22857 and corresponding result have been nullified.—RT/Agency

Untouched Gem: Sindh's Coastal Beauty Still Lies Wasted

KARACHI: World Tourism Day is being observed today, highlighting the importance of tourism in driving global economic growth and cultural exchange. With its diverse natural and cul-

tural assets, Pakistan has enormous untapped potential in the tourism sector from pristine beaches and scenic islands to deserts, mountains, wetlands, and centuries-old archaeological sites. According to experts, the country's 1,000-kilometer-long coastline stretching from Karachi to Balochistan offers some of the most promising sites for local and international tourism.—RT/Agency

Enough Brutality: Schools Ordered to End Beating of Children

By Yumna Zahid

A school should be a sanctuary of learning, not a place of fear and trauma governed by bullies with teaching degrees.

A teacher's voice should guide and inspire, yet for many children, it rings as a sound of judgment and intimidation. They come to class eager to read, write, and dream—but instead face cruelty, humiliation, and brutality. Why? Because some educators still believe that sticks and rods teach better than knowledge. Because the sharp crack of a ruler is their preferred applause. Because slaps, kicks, and beatings are still mistaken for "discipline." Because kneeling on painful knees is considered a fitting punishment.

Let's be clear: beating children is not discipline. It's aggression. It's sadism. It's assault. It's a crime against childhood itself.

What lesson do we teach when violence is the method? Do we inspire admiration or breed fear? Do we open minds or shut them forever? Do we nurture scholars or criminals? Do we unlock doors to discovery or slam them shut with trauma?

Every slap whispers to a child: you are worthless. Every whipping screams: your voice doesn't matter. Every blow steals a bit more of their innocence. Is this education—or strangulation?

They say, "Without beating, children won't learn." Really? Did Albert

Einstein need a slap to understand relativity? Did Alama Iqbal suffer ruler blows to express his spiritual vision? Did Leonardo da Vinci need punishment to paint the Mona Lisa? Did Marie Curie require beatings to win two Nobel Prizes? Did Shakespeare depend on leather belts to write Romeo and Juliet? Did Stephen Hawking have to be battered to theorize about black holes? No—knowledge grows with encouragement, creativity blooms with freedom, not fear.

In truth, corporal punishment is the coward's tool and the currency of bullies. If we cannot protect children at their ABCs, what right do we have to build a just and peaceful society?

Murtaza Wahab Fires Back: Opposition Can't Stomach KMC's Winning Streak

KARACHI: Mayor Murtaza Wahab has said the opposition cannot bring itself to appreciate the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC)'s progress, simply because it is now standing on its own feet. In a strongly worded statement, Wahab criticized the trend of baseless criticism, stating that negativity will not solve the city's problems. "Development is underway in Karachi, but progress will remain hindered until the



people of Karachi unite," he added. Wahab emphasized the need to rise above political friction for the greater good, stressing that criticism for the sake of criticism is counterproductive and regressive.—RT

Horror at Wedding: 17-Year-Old Girl Gunned Down, Shooter Caught in Shah Latif Town

KARACHI: A 17-year-old girl was tragically killed in Karachi's Shah Latif Town after stray bullets from celebratory firing at a wedding struck her. According to police, the victim, Fatima, was visiting her uncle's house for the ceremony when the uncle fired shots first in the street and

then inside the home. Fatima was standing in the kitchen when a bullet hit her neck, causing her death. Police recovered bullet casings from a .30 bore pistol at the scene and have arrested the suspect. Authorities condemned the reckless firing that ended a young life.—RT/Agency

Karachi Police Foil Human Trafficking Ring, Rescue Girls from Lahore & Faisalabad

KARACHI: Police in Karachi rescued two girls, aged 19 and 17, who were abducted from Lahore and Faisalabad and trapped by a human trafficking gang. The girls approached SSU personnel near Karachi Airport, claiming they were about to be sold. Authorities immediately took them into protective cus-

tody and alerted the emergency response team, transferring the victims to a police station. Police revealed the girls had been held captive for 10 months by suspect Rafi, who allegedly forced them into prostitution. The girls said a woman named Aysha lured them to Karachi.—RT/Agency

Model Colony Car Lifters Crushed: Weapons, Laptop and Stolen Vehicle Seized

KARACHI: In a swift jurisdiction of the Model Colony Police Station. Authorities say the arrests are part of ongoing efforts to clamp down on rising vehicle thefts in the city. Further investigations are underway, and officials believe the suspects may be linked to a larger car theft network operating across Karachi.—RT/Agency

Landmark First: 100 Lawyers Trained on Disability Rights in Karachi Bar Workshop



By Rahib Gaho

KARACHI — In a significant move toward legal inclusivity and accessibility, the Pakistan Legal United Society (PLUS), in collaboration with the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPD), successfully conducted a two-day sensitization training at the Karachi Bar Association (KBA), engaging over 100 advocates.

The training aimed to educate lawyers on the Sindh Empowerment of

Persons with Disabilities Act, 2018 (SEPD), and the broader legal rights and protections of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), marking a strong step forward in building a more inclusive justice system.

The program began with registration and agenda-setting led by Salma Habib Bhutto, Program Manager at PLUS, followed by a welcome address from Advocate Rizwana Patel, Executive Director PLUS.

Governor Tessori Gets Hero's Welcome at Press Club, Petition Dropped

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori announced that a petition filed against him by retired judge and lawyer Ahmed Gabol has been withdrawn after detailed discussions. Gabol expressed satisfaction with the Governor's assurances and praised his initiatives, particularly at Governor's House.

Speaking at the Karachi Press Club, where he was warmly received by President Fazil Jamili and other office bearers, Tessori lauded the role of journalists as the "eyes and ears of society." He assured full support to the journalist community and praised media for constructive reporting that helped highlight his initiatives.

He also termed his recent visit to China a success, noting Pakistan's strong ties with the Chinese people. Tessori further praised the legal fraternity's role in strengthening democracy and vowed to continue commemorating May 10 as the "battle of truth."—RT/Agency

Governor Tessori: Tourism Key to Sustainable Development

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori, in his message on World Tourism Day, highlighted the importance of the theme "Tourism and Sustainable Transformation." He said Pakistan, blessed with unique geography, is a paradise for tourists and that tourism plays a vital role in social, cultural, and economic development.



Tessori noted that tourism generates employment, boosts exports, and fosters global prosperity. He stressed that for developing nations, tourism stands as the second-largest industry in terms of job creation, making it vital for Pakistan's economic growth.—RT/Agency

Mugheri Mohalla Rises: Community Unites for Progress and Growth

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: A significant meeting took place in Mugheri Mohalla, Malir Akbar Goth, Gadap Town, focusing on key local issues including road development and community welfare. Prominent leaders such as Mir Shahzad Khan Mugheri, Chairman Mir Nazeer Hussain Mugheri, and other respected elders attended and addressed the gathering. The participants stressed the importance of unity, brotherhood, and collective decision-making for the progress of the all challenges. The Goth. They emphasized meeting concluded with that the village belongs prayers for continued to all residents equally, harmony and strength.



Pakistan Army's Sacred Duty in Holy Cities Security Honored in Karachi



By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: A joyous celebration was held at Allah Wali Chowrang to mark the historic defense agreement between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, entrusting the Pakistan Army with the security of Makkah and Madinah. The "Long live Pakistan Army." Speakers praised the army's bravery and leadership under Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, expressing pride and unwavering support for the armed forces.

Sachal Police Smash Robbery Gang, Recover Weapons and Looted Goods

By Dildar Seelro

KARACHI: Sachal Police, led by SHO Muhammad Amin Khosa under SSP East's orders, arrested a four-member gang involved in multiple house robberies in Scheme 33 societies. The accused Javed, Muhammad Musa, Abubakar, and Bilal stole weapons, ammunition, selling stolen items in jewelry, cash, and mobile phones from victims during July and August. Police recovered illegal weapons, ammunition, selling stolen items in jewelry, cash, and mobile phones from victims during July and August. Police recovered illegal



Steel Mills Scandal: GM Caught Red-Handed with Stolen Copper

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Bin Qasim Police, led by SHO Faisal near Chhatr Chowk, failed to explain possession of the copper and ca-

bles without authorization. The case was registered under Section 379/34 PPC. His accomplices, Saleem and Sarwar, are also under investigation.

Saddar Gets New Life: Modern Park Renovated and Opened to Public

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Mansoor Ahmed Shaikh, Chairman of Saddar Town, stated that the ongoing development in Saddar Town is being enhanced with modern facilities. After inaugurating the renovated Justice Rana Bhagwan Dan, he said that modern parks not only attract public attention but also significantly beautify the area. He emphasized that their priority is to provide a healthy and pleasant environment for future generations. The inauguration was attended by various officials and local representatives who appreciated the development efforts.



"Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe."

—Albert Einstein

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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28 2025

Pakistan Stands Firm: PM Tells UN Chief Multilateralism Must Be Protected

NEW YORK : Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly Session here and discussed matters of mutual interest.

During their warm and cordial meeting, the Prime Minister reaffirmed Pakistan's resolute commitment to strengthening multilateralism with the United Nations playing a central role in addressing the most pressing global challenges.

The Prime Minister appreciated the Secretary-General's remarkable leadership in promoting international peace and stability, as well as



UN's role in strengthening global governance with enhanced voice of the developing countries.

Expressing gratitude for the Secretary-General's appreciation of the Government's rescue and relief efforts during the recent

like Pakistan.

The Prime Minister emphasized issues of critical national and regional importance to Pakistan, particularly the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, violation of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and externally sponsored terrorism in Pakistan. He urged a just and peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council.

The Prime Minister commended the Secretary-General's leadership and sincere efforts for de-escalation of recent tensions between Pakistan and India. Sharing serious concern over the burning

issue of Gaza, the Prime Minister reaffirmed Pakistan's support for efforts for an immediate ceasefire and ending the war, provision of humanitarian assistance, and opening a political horizon for an irreversible path to Palestinian statehood.

The Prime Minister reiterated Pakistan's commitment to continue playing constructive role as a member of the UN Security Council for regional and international peace and security.

The Secretary-General lauded Pakistan's strong voice and critical role at the UN, including principled positions at the Security Council. —RT/Agency

Khawaja Asif says Pakistan not selling nukes under Saudi defence pact

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has clarified that Pakistan is not selling nuclear weapons to Saudi Arabia under the recently signed landmark defence agreement, stressing that "we are responsible people".

Riyadh and Islamabad signed a "Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement" on September 17, significantly strengthening a decades-old security partnership, pledging that any attack on either nation would be treated as an act of aggression against both.



The deal was signed by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Riyadh, a week after Israel's strikes on Qatar ended the diplomatic calculus in the region. After the landmark defence agreement was signed, several international media outlets speculated that Pakistan's nuclear programme had been made part of the pact — a claim that quickly drew attention and fuelled debate. During an interview with journalist Mehdi Hasan for Zeteo, the defence czar was

questioned about the recently signed defence pact. Mehdi asked, "How much of it is a reaction to the Israeli bombing of Qatar?" In response, Asif clarified that the agreement was not a reaction to the Qatar attack. He emphasised that discussions on the pact had been ongoing for a considerable period of time. —RT/Agency

Diplomatic Earthquake: Iran Recalls Envoys from Europe Over UN Sanctions Clash

IRAN: Iran has recalled its ambassadors to Germany, France and the United Kingdom on Saturday for consultation over the dispute mechanism to reinstate UN sanctions, the country's Mehr state.

The move comes after a Russian and Chinese push on Friday to delay the revival of the international sanctions on Iran failed at the 15-member UN Security Council after only four countries supported their draft resolution, opening the door for the reimposition of sanctions.

A raft of UN sanctions on Iran over its nuclear program lifted under a landmark 2015 deal, will go back into force at the end of Saturday — barring a diplomatic breakthrough, thought to be unlikely.

The sanctions will be reimposed because the "E3" European group — Britain, France and Germany — triggered a mechanism in the deal alleging Tehran was not meeting its obligations.

Here are some key facts about the so-called "snap-back" process:

What do the sanctions target?

The sanctions target companies, organizations and individuals that contribute directly or indirectly to Iran's nuclear program or the development of its ballistic missiles.



panies, organizations and individuals that contribute directly or indirectly to Iran's nuclear program or the development of its ballistic missiles.

Providing necessary equipment, expertise, or funding are all grounds for sanctions that could help Iran's nuclear or ballistic programs.

Swath of the economy affected. The sanctions that will be reimposed include an embargo on conventional weapons with the prohibition of any sale or transfer of arms to Iran. Imports, exports or transfers of parts and technologies related to the nuclear and ballistic program will be prohibited. The assets of entities and individuals abroad belonging to Iranian persons or groups linked to the nuclear program will be frozen.

Individuals designated as participating in prohibited nuclear activities may be banned from traveling to UN member states.

UN member states will be required to restrict access to banking and financial facilities that could help Iran's nuclear or ballistic programs. Anyone violating the sanctions regime could see their assets frozen worldwide. The EU had its own sanctions. Separate measures by the European Union could now be reimposed alongside the core, global sanctions. Their goal was to hit the Iranian economy, not only to hamper nuclear activity but also to inflict fiscal pain to force Tehran to comply. —RT/Agency

UAE's Plea: Foreign Minister Presses Israel to End Gaza War Now

NEW YORK : UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed stressed the urgent need for ending the Gaza war during a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, UAE state news agency WAM reported on Saturday.

It was Netanyahu's first meeting with a senior Arab official since Israel's Sept. 9 attack on Hamas leaders in Qatar, which the UAE condemned and protested by summoning Israel's deputy ambassador.

The UAE, a major oil producer and regional trade and commerce hub with diplomatic sway across the Middle East, signed a US-brokered normalisation agreement with Israel under the Abraham Accords in 2020, which paved the way for close economic and security ties, including defence cooperation.

The Abraham Accords, brokered by US President Donald Trump during his first term in office, saw the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco normalise diplomatic relations with Israel.

Sheikh Abdullah reiterated the UAE's "unwavering commitment to supporting all initiatives aimed at achieving a comprehensive peace based on the two-state solution, in a way that fulfills the aspirations of both the Palestinian and Israeli peoples," WAM said. —RT/Agency



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High-Stakes Talks: Ishaq Dar, German FM Grapple With Global and Regional Flashpoints



NEW YORK : Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar met German Foreign Minister Dr. Johann Wadepuhl on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly session and discussed matters of mutual interest.

They discussed bilateral, regional and global issues, and ways to strengthen Pakistan-Germany cooperation in

trade, investment, development, climate, skilled migration and people-to-people ties.

Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar held a constructive meeting with the Foreign Minister of Costa Rica Arnoldo Andre Tinoco in New York.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing bilateral ties as well as strengthening multilateral cooperation. —RT/Agency

Rally Disaster: 31 Killed, Dozens Injured in Stampede at Indian Star Vijay's Event



INDIA: At least 31 people were killed and more than 50 injured on Saturday at a rally held by Tamil actor Vijay, who is campaigning for election, state officials said.

"Thirty-one people died with more than 50 people now hospitalised," said V Selvaraj, a senior police official in the district of Karur in Tamil Nadu, where the incident occurred.

Large crowds had gathered for the meeting, part of Vijay's ongoing state tour for his political party Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam.

Vijay, who is a well-known actor and goes by

only one name, launched a political party last year and began campaigning this month ahead of state elections that are to be held early next year.

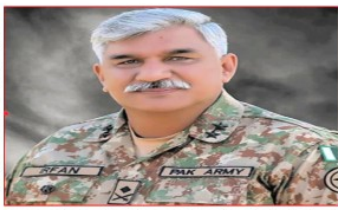
State lawmaker Senthil Balaji told reporters that 58 people were hospitalised after what he said was a stampede. He added that Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin will visit the area on Sunday.

The unfortunate incident during a political rally in Karur, Tamil Nadu, is deeply saddening," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a post on X. —RT/Agency

Visionary at Work: Maj Gen Irfan Malik Reshapes Cantonments into Citizen-Centric Towns

RAWALPINDI: In just two years, Maj Gen Irfan Ahmed Malik has turned the Military Lands and Cantonments (ML&C) Department into a story of sweeping reform, transparency, and modernization. What might normally take decades in Pakistan's bureaucratic culture, he achieved within a single tenure, leaving behind a benchmark for governance.

His tenure has brought clarity to long-murky taxation and property rules, putting them on a transparent, automated, and law-based system. The long-standing confusion over Cantt Fund properties and Old Grant conversions was ended through uniform policies that shut the door on favoritism.



Education and healthcare have also witnessed a renaissance: a merit-driven Education Policy 2024 and expanded health coverage for employees' families have built both trust and inclusivity. Digitization became a hallmark — from e-portals for taxation and grievances to automated HR systems, transforming ML&C into a

citizen-friendly institution. Beyond policies, his approachable yet firm leadership has boosted morale through fair promotions, training, and welfare for pensioners. Despite resistance, his determination ensured reforms prevailed — cementing his legacy as one of ML&C's most visionary leaders. —RT

You're Losing Friends!" — Greek PM Issues Stunning Rebuke to Israel Over Gaza

UNITED NATIONS: Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, a key partner of Israel within the European Union, warned that Israel risked losing remaining friends with its destructive war in Gaza.

Addressing the UN General Assembly, the center-right Greek leader said Israel had a right to self-defense after the October 7, 2023 at-

tacks by Hamas but cannot "justify the death of thousands of children." Greece maintains a strategic partnership with Israel, but this does not prevent us from speaking openly and frankly," Mitsotakis said. "The continuation of this course of action will ultimately harm Israel's own interests, leading to an erosion of international support," he said. "I tell my Israeli friends they risk alienating all their remaining allies if they persist on a path that is shattering the potential of a two-state solution." Greece did not join European powers including France and Britain, which in recent days recognized a Palestinian state as they voiced exasperation with Israel. —RT/Agency

Beijing's Rising Star: China's No. 2 Makes Bold UN Debut Against US Pressure

NEW YORK: China's second-in-command sounded his nation's oft-repeated alarm against aggressive and unilateral action in global politics, addressing world leaders in a speech brimming with references that echoed long-standing concerns about the United States and the Trump administration in particular — and cast Beijing as a defender of the world order in an era of encroaching chaos.

Li Qiang's remarks also reflected his own continuing rise to prominence after being elevated to premier more than two years ago. Li made no major announcements and offered no specific policy revelations in



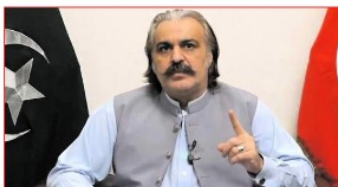
his speech to the U.N. General Assembly, as has typically been the practice of China in that forum in recent years. But his comments, in sweep and assertive tone, revealed several things — including what might be seen as his official debut on the world stage since his promotion 2½ years ago. "Unilateralism and Cold War mentality are resurfacing," Li said. "History keeps reminding us that when might dictates right, the world risks division and the law of the jungle return and the weak be left as prey to the strong, human society would face even more bloodshed and brutality." —RT/Agency

Liquor Case Turmoil: Court Upholds Arrest Warrant for CM Gandapur Amid Legal Heat

ISLAMABAD: The District and Sessions Court Islamabad on Saturday upheld the arrest warrants for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur in the liquor and weapons recovery case.

The hearing took place at the District and Sessions Court Islamabad, where the case against CM Ali Amin Gandapur was heard regarding the recovery of liquor and illegal weapons.

Judicial Magistrate Mubashir Hassan Chishty presided over the hearing.



As Ali Amin Gandapur did not appear before the court, the magistrate ordered that his arrest warrants remain in effect. The court adjourned the hearing until

October 4. The case was registered at Bara Kahu police station, involving the alleged recovery of liquor and weapons from the Chief Minister. —RT/Agency

Show of Force: Trump Deploys Federal Troops to Portland and ICE Sites Amid Chaos

US: US President Donald Trump on Saturday said he was directing Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth to send troops to Portland, Oregon and to protect federal immigration facilities against "domestic terrorists", saying he was authorising them to use "full force, if necessary."



"At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary troops to protect war ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists," Trump said in a post on his Truth Social platform.

Portland's mayor, Keith Wilson, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. In a press conference on Friday, Wilson said an apparent influx of federal officers did not come at the request of the city, and called it an overreach and a distraction.

On Thursday, Trump told reporters that "crazy people" were trying to burn buildings in Portland. "They're professional agitators and anarchists," he said, without providing evidence.

Trump has made crime a major focus of his administration even as violent crime rates have fallen in many US cities. His crackdown on Democratic-led municipalities including Los Angeles and Washington has fueled legal concerns and spurred protests. —RT/Agency

UN Spectacle: Netanyahu's Prop Show Sparks Global Eyebrows

JERUSALEM: In his speeches to the United Nations when world leaders gather, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has quite the history of turning to props and visual aids to hammer his points home. But even by the Israeli leader's elevated standards of showmanship, this year's address took things to a new level.



Moments into the speech, Netanyahu unfurled a map — titled "THE CURSE" (the all-caps were his) — in which he methodically used a fat marker to check off the countries where Israel has killed its enemies during a nearly two-year region-wide war.

He then addressed the audience with a pair of multiple-choice questions, depicted on a large card.

"Who shouts 'Death to America'?" he asked as he read off the names of Iran, Hamas, Hezbollah and Yemen's Houthi militia. The answer, familiar to anyone who has taken a standardized test: "All of the above."

Even before he took to the podium, Netanyahu's office said it had set up massive loudspeakers on trucks along the Gaza border to blare the speech to the people inside. He said his intended audience included the Israeli hostages held captive in Gaza. "We have not forgotten you," he said. His office later claimed the Israeli army had hacked the phones of people of Gaza, including Hamas operatives, to make sure they heard his words. Inside Gaza, Palestinians said they could not hear the speech, and there were no immediate reports of phones being hacked. —RT/Agency