



Naomi Watts Opens Up on Emotional Pre-Marriage Moment with Billy Crudup

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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

PPP Draws Battle Line — Refuses Legislative Backing To Centre Amid Punjab Rift

ISLAMABAD: In another attempt to secure parliamentary backing, the federal government reached out to the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) ahead of the upcoming National Assembly session.

However, the PPP has once again refused to support the government in any legislative matters, deepening the political standoff between the coalition partners.

PPP refuses to back govt legislation

Sources privy to the matter said, the government requested the PPP's cooperation in key legislative agendas but failed to win their support. The PPP leadership reportedly made it clear that it would not endorse any legislation sponsored by the ruling coalition.

Sources within the party



said the PPP would participate symbolically in parliamentary proceedings but refrain from active legislative involvement.

"The PPP will not support the government in any legislation," a source confirmed, adding that this stance reflects the party's growing dissatisfaction with how the federal government has handled provincial coordination.



PPP sources also stated that if the political situation in Punjab worsens, the responsibility would rest solely on the Punjab government.

Meanwhile, a Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) delegation led by Raja Pervez Ashraf has reached the Speaker's Chamber to meet leaders of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). —RT/Agency

Asad Qaiser Rallies PPP To Push No-Confidence Move, Pledges PTI's Full Force

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has offered the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) its support if it decides to move a no-confidence motion against the government.

Former National Assembly Speaker and PTI leader Asad Qaiser extended the offer, saying, "If the PPP is serious, let them bring a no-confidence motion — we will support it. We welcome PPP's friendly fire."

The development comes amid continued friction between the PPP and the ruling PML-N, following recent remarks by Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz that angered the PPP leadership.

The PPP's discontent was evident on Friday when its lawmakers staged a walkout from the National Assembly, though government members later persuaded them to return to the House.



Earlier, Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari made it clear that CM Maryam Nawaz won't apologize to anyone for her statement.

Reacting to the demand of PPP for an apology, Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari said Maryam Nawaz will not apologize for her remarks during a recent public gathering. She also referred to the Cholistan water

canal issue, stating that Punjab had stepped back despite protests from Sindh. "PPP should focus on its own work and let PML-N do its job," she asserted. Bukhari strongly rejected calls for an apology from the Punjab CM. "Why should Maryam Nawaz apologize for working for the rights of Punjabis? People praise Lahore's development; they should turn Karachi into Europe too." —RT/Agency

Toshakhana-II Showdown Nears End As Imran's Lawyer Cross-Examines Final Witness

ISLAMABAD: The Toshakhana Case-II has entered its final phase as the counsel for PTI founder Imran Khan completed cross-examination of the prosecution's last witness, Mohsin Haroon. During the hearing held at Adiala Jail, Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi were produced before the court. The judge provided both accused with documents containing 29 questions each.

Imran Khan's lawyer, Qausain Faisal Mufti, cross-examined the NAB investigating officer, Mohsin Haroon. With this, the defence has completed cross-examination of all prosecution witnesses in the case. A total of 20 witnesses' statements have been recorded. At the



next hearing, both Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi will respond to the charges against them. Special Judge Central Shah Rukh Arjumand adjourned the proceedings until Wednesday. It is pertinent to mention that on September 12, 2024, the FIA formed a three-member Joint

Investigation Team (JIT) to investigate the Toshakhana-II case. Following the Supreme Court's verdict on NAB amendments, the accountability court had transferred the Toshakhana-II reference against PTI founder Imran Khan and his wife from NAB to the FIA. —RT/Agency

Lt-Gen Asim Malik Gets Official Nod For Extended Tenure As DG ISI

ISLAMABAD: The tenure of the Pakistan's top spy master Lieutenant General Asim Malik has been extended, national broadcaster reported on Monday.

Malik — who also serves as Pakistan's National Security Adviser (NSA) — will continue serving as the Director General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), one of the most influential positions within Pakistan's security framework. However, the official statement did not specify the duration of this extension.

According to the Ministry



General Headquarters (GHQ) for a year.

Military career
Lieutenant General Asim Malik joined the Pakistan Army through the 80th Long Course and is a recipient of the prestigious Sword of Honour, awarded to the top cadet of each graduating class. Belonging to the Baluch Regiment, one of the army's oldest and most distinguished units, Malik has built an extensive career marked by leadership in some of Pakistan's most strategically sensitive regions. —RT/Agency

Pakistan, Malaysia Seal 6 Landmark MoUs To Supercharge Ties In Education and Anti-Corruption

PUTRAJAYA: Pakistan and Malaysia on Monday signed six Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) aimed at enhancing bilateral cooperation in diverse fields, including education, tourism, Halal certification, and anti-corruption efforts.

The documents were exchanged during a formal ceremony at the Perdana Putra Complex — the office of the Malaysian Prime Minister — as part of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's three-day official visit to Malaysia at the invitation of his counterpart, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim.

The signing ceremony followed a one-on-one meeting between the two leaders, as well as delegation-level talks.



Diplomatic Training Cooperation

An MoU was signed between the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) of Malaysia and Pakistan's Foreign Service Academy to promote collaboration in diplomatic training.

The documents were exchanged by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and Malaysian Foreign Minister Haji Mohamad Bin Haji Hasan.

Higher Education

The two governments also signed an MoU on cooperation in higher education. The agreement was formal-

ized by DPM Ishaq Dar and Malaysia's Minister of Higher Education, Dr. Zambry Abd Kadir.

Tourism Promotion

Minister of Tourism of Malaysia Tiong King Sing and Minister of Information and Broadcasting Attaulah Tarar exchanged the documents of an MoU between the two governments for cooperation in the field of tourism.

Halal Certification

Both sides agreed to collaborate on Halal certification standards. The relevant documents were exchanged by Minister of Religious Affairs, Dr. Haji Mohd Na'im Bin Haji Mokhtar, and Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan.

Anti-Corruption

Both countries inked an MoU to expand cooperation in combating and preventing corruption. The documents were exchanged by Chief Commissioner of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Azam Bin Baki and Deputy Chairman of NAB Sohail Nasir.

SME Development

The sixth accord focusing on enhancing cooperation between Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) Pakistan and Malaysia's SME Corporation. Chief Executive Officer SME Corporation Malaysia Rizal bin Dato' Naim and Special Assistant to PM Syed Tariq Fatemi exchanged the documents. —RT/Agency

High-Powered Panel Formed To Spearhead Pakistan-Saudi Economic Alliance After Defence Breakthrough



Islamabad: Following the landmark defence agreement between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, a high-level committee has been established to lead and oversee bilateral economic negotiations under the Pakistan-Saudi Economic Framework.

According to media, Federal Minister for Climate Change Dr. Musadik Malik has been appointed as the committee's co-chairman. The committee will supervise discussions aimed at expanding cooperation beyond defence and energy to include climate-related projects, trade, and investment.

The body comprises ministers from key sectors including energy, commerce, industry, communications, and agriculture. Representatives from the State Bank of Pakistan, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), and Pakistan's embassy in Riyadh have also been included. Lieutenant General Sarfraz Ahmed has been inducted to strengthen civil-military coordination in economic diplomacy. Officials said the initiative reflects both countries' commitment to deepening strategic and economic ties across multiple domains. —RT/Agency

Nawaz Stands Firm Behind Maryam As Rift With People's Party Deepens

LAHORE: President PML-N Nawaz Sharif has backed Maryam Nawaz in the ongoing row between the People's Party and the Punjab government, sources said.

According to sources, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a meeting with the former prime minister, talked about the dispute and said that if Maryam Nawaz avoids harsh statements, the People's Party will also observe ceasefire.

Nawaz Sharif, however, backed daughter Maryam Nawaz and said that the "Punjab chief minister's statements are a reaction to the People's Party's undue criticism. Maryam Nawaz has truly represented the people of Punjab," Nawaz Sharif told the prime minister.

"A scathing press conference by Sindh's Information



Minister Sharjeel Memon on Sunday and criticism of CM Punjab was after Nawaz Sharif's support to Maryam", sources shared.

The row between two political allies has further heated up after it, sources added.

Earlier, Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari made it clear that

CM Maryam Nawaz won't apologize to anyone for her statement.

Reacting to the demand of PPP for apology, Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari said Maryam Nawaz would not apologize for her remarks during a recent public gathering. —RT/Agency

Israel Expels 171 Gaza Flotilla Activists — Greta Thunberg Among Those Deported

GAZA: Israel said on Monday that an additional 171 activists from the Gaza aid flotilla, including climate campaigner Greta Thunberg, were deported on Monday to Greece and Slovakia.

The activists deported from Israel have alleged severe mistreatment by Israeli forces, saying they were harassed, deprived of food, and subjected to humiliation during detention.

The Global Sumud Flotilla, which sought to break the naval blockade of Gaza and deliver symbolic aid, was intercepted between Wednesday and Friday. About 450 participants were arrested during the Israeli operation, sparking widespread criticism and global protests.



Italian activist Cesare Toti, speaking at Rome's Fiumicino Airport on Sunday, said, "We were treated terribly... from the army to the police, there was harassment," according to Italy's ANSA news agency.

"We were treated like monkeys' Fellow Italian journalist Saverio Tommasi told the Associated Press that Is-

raeli soldiers had treated detainees "like monkeys" and denied them access to medicine. Yasmine Lafram, head of the Union of Jewish Communities in Italy, added that the group was "treated violently" and "had weapons pointed at us," calling it "unacceptable for a democratic country." —RT/Agency

FO Pins Hopes On Swift Rescue Of Ex-Senator Mushtaq Ahmad Amid Tense Wait

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said it is making "tireless efforts" to evacuate former senator Mushtaq Ahmad, who was detained by the Israeli forces in the Gaza aid flotilla interception.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, through its Embassy in Amman, is working tirelessly to secure the safe evacuation of former senator Mushtaq Ahmad Khan," read the press release issued by the FO. The foreign ministry hoped that the process for the former law-



grateful to the brotherly government of Jordan for [its] exemplary cooperation and generous support. "Earlier on Sunday, the FO had said that Pakistan was actively engaged with international partners to ensure the safety and repatriation of its citizens. "Through the diplomatic channels of a friendly European country, we have confirmed that former senator Mushtaq Ahmad is in the custody of the Israeli occupying forces and is safe and in good health," read the press statement. —RT/Agency

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Zardari Inspects Fast-Tracked Development Drive in Shaheed Benazirabad

By Farooq Junejo

SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD: Sindh Minister for Works & Services and Prisons, Haji Ali Hassan Zardari, visited Shaheed Benazirabad to inspect ongoing development schemes under the directives of PPP leadership. He conducted a surprise inspection of the 60 Mile-68 Bridge link road and announced plans to construct and repair roads to improve regional connectivity. He also shared that the tender



for the 68 Bridge Girls School will be issued soon, ensuring quick commencement of construction. Zardari reaffirmed PPP's commitment to delivering basic facilities to the public. Local leaders and community members warmly welcomed the minister during his visit.

Dr. Lalchand Ikrani Attends Sacred Gathering at Guru Balpuri Ashram



By Shoukat Khakheli

THANA BULA KHAN: Minority Wing PPP Sindh President Dr. Lalchand Ikrani visited Guru Balpuri Ashram and walked to attend religious rituals. He prayed for the well-being of PPP leaders including Asif Ali Zardari and Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. Hundreds of devotees, along with PPP leader Suraj Kumar Akrani and local community heads, also participated in the event, showing strong support and unity.

Sujawal Hosts Grand Welcome for Muhammad Ali Malkani and PPP Leadership

By Kamran Hidayat



SUJAWAL: A grand reception was held in honor of Provincial Livestock and Fisheries Minister Muhammad Ali Malkani, PPP district leaders, and prominent public figures. Hundreds from various communities, citizens, traders, and party workers participated enthusiastically. The event was jointly organized by Ward-9's Shaikh, Memon, and Khati communities. Minister Muhammad Ali Malkani praised PPP's dedication to public service, high-

lighting major development projects including road constructions and thousands of merit-based recruitments in education and police departments. Popular PPP leader Abdul Latif Memon reaffirmed his commitment to serving the people of Sujawal, emphasizing his efforts to address the city's problems. The reception was attended by notable politicians, journalists, and party workers.

Jilani Declares PPP Still Reigns Supreme Across Pakistan

By Sajjad Chang

HANGORJA: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) MNA Syed Javed Ali Shah Jilani said that PPP remains the most popular political party across all provinces, with deep roots among the people. Addressing a large public gathering in Ahmedpur, he stated that voters supported PPP in recent local by-elections based on the party's performance. He



assured that the Sindh government is serious about resolving government employees' issues soon. Jilani congratulated successful PPP candidates and local leaders.

Jameel Soomro Offers Heartfelt Condolences in Larkana



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Jameel Ahmed Soomro, Political Secretary to PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and MPA City Larkana, expressed deep sorrow over the passing of the mother of Talib Mughal, the son of Ahmed Nawaz Sandano, father of Maqsood Ahmed Sandano, and uncle of Wajid Mastoi in Union Committee 04, Dari Town, Rahmatpur Mohalla. He also led a recitation of Fatihah for the departed souls, praying that Allah Almighty grant them the highest place in Jannah. PPP City District Larkana officials were also present on the occasion.

Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri Assumes Command as Sindh University Vice Chancellor

By Munawar Chandio



JAMSHORO: Professor Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri officially assumed the role of Vice Chancellor at the University of Sindh, Jamshoro. He was warmly welcomed by faculty, staff, and officers with traditional Sindh

ajraks and rose petals. Dr. Marri pledged to promote research, transparency, and collaboration, emphasizing the university's role in social transformation. He also paid tribute to the founders and former VCs of the institution during his first day in office.

PTI Leader Demands Imran Khan's Return, Rejects Any Move to Divide Sindh

By Abdul Sattar



TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: Sindh PTI Senior Vice President Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah urged the reinstatement of Imran Khan as Prime Minister to resolve Pakistan's political and economic crisis. He criticized the current government for worsening inflation and warned that the 27th constitutional amend-

ment threatens provincial autonomy. Shah vowed to oppose any attempts to divide Sindh and predicted PTI's victory in upcoming elections.

Trader Fights for Life After Violent Robbery Attempt in Thatta

By Mohammad Khan Brohi

THATTA: A local trader, Ghazanfar Buddhani, was critically injured after being shot by armed motorcycle thieves during a robbery attempt near Main

Stop and Ojhi Mosque. The assailants opened fire when Buddhani resisted, hitting him and his vehicle. He was rushed to Civil Hospital Thatta in critical condition. The attackers fled the scene. The incident sparked outrage among the business community. Trader Union President Dr. Kamran Qureshi condemned the attack and demanded immediate arrest of the culprits.

Sindh Abadgar Board Sounds Alarm as Paddy Prices Plunge

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: The Sindh Abadgar Board (SAB) held a meeting expressing deep concern over the declining paddy prices and the overall agricultural crisis. Chairing the session, Mahmood Nawaz Shah highlighted that paddy prices have dropped from Rs. 3500 to Rs. 2200 per 40 kg in three years, while production costs continue to rise. The board criticized the government for lack of transparency in paddy purchases and



called for inclusive rehabilitation measures involving farmers. While appreciating Sindh's provision of DAP and Urea, SAB urged the government to deregulate commodity prices and remove export barriers to revive the agricultural economy. The board emphasized the need for a long-term, sustainable agricultural strategy.

Chandka Medical College Triumphs in National Forensic Poster Showdown 2025

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Students of Batch-51 from Chandka Medical College secured first position in the National Forensic Poster Competition held at Liaquat National Medical College, Karachi. Over 100 teams from 44 medical colleges and 9 universities participated. Chandka's six teams impressed judges with research-based posters, winning the championship trophy. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Nusrat Shah and Principal Prof. Dr.



Zameer Ahmed Soomro praised the students' dedication and faculty support during the award ceremony. The event was attended by senior faculty and university officials celebrating this national achievement.

Tragedy in Digri as Young Man Dies After Consuming Deadly Substance

By Shahid Majeed

DIGRI: A 22-year-old youth, Shehzad son of Khamiso Khakheli from Qaim Pura, Digri, died after consuming an unknown poisonous

substance. He was found unconscious near a livestock enclosure in Niaz Town and rushed to Hyderabad hospital where he passed away. The body was brought back to Digri for funeral prayers at Quba Mosque. Relatives revealed that the same area's livestock owner also consumed a dangerous poison recently but survived miraculously.

Family Desperate as Mentally Challenged Girl Vanishes in Sukkur



By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: A 24-year-old mentally challenged girl, Bharai from Almani Mohalla, Moro, has been missing for several days after leaving her home in WAPDA Colony Thermal, Sukkur. Her worried family has filed a report at the local police station and searched hostels, bus stops, and surrounding areas without success. They urge authorities and kind-hearted citizens to help recover their missing daughter.

Colorful Festivities Mark Annual Urs of Syed Jhandolo Shah Near Shahdampur



By Sajan Jani

SHAHDAMPUR: The four-day annual Urs of Syed Madad Ali Shah, known as Syed Jhandolo Shah Badshah, commenced near Hala Road with a grand ceremony. Custodians Syed Ali Akbar Shah Kazmi and others led chadar laying and special prayers for peace. Hundreds of devotees from Sindh, Punjab, and Balochistan participated. A festive fair with food stalls, swings, and wrestling matches brought joy to locals, creating an atmosphere similar to Eid across the area.

Power Workers Warn of Countrywide Shutdown Over Privatization Plans

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: The All Pakistan WAPDA Hydro Electric Workers Union (CEBA) has announced a nationwide protest on October 8, threatening a total work stoppage and electricity blackout if demands are unmet. Key demands include ending privatization, abolishing the contract labor system, and lifting the eight-year recruitment ban. Union President Abdul Latif Nizamani blamed IMF and World Bank pressure for government actions. Sindh workers vow to lead a robust protest from Labour Hall, Hyderabad.

Furious Villagers Storm Streets Over Drainage Woes in Nawab Wali Muhammad

By Yousif Rind



NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: Villagers near Nawab Wali Muhammad, including Ghaus Ali Shah and people from Machhi and Kalhora communities, protested against the lack of sewage and rainwater drainage and cleaning of the main water canal. Despite repeated requests to local representatives, no action has been taken. Villagers dug drains themselves but face financial challenges paying for machinery. They demand urgent intervention to resolve the problem promptly.

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Reverence and Unity as Thul Marks 15th Urs of Shaheed Faqir Ghulam Rasool Soomro

By Khair Muhammad Golo

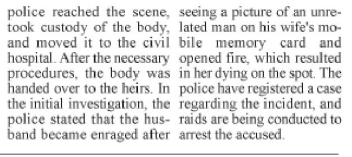


THUL: The 15th annual Urs of Shaheed Faqir Ghulam Rasool Soomro was held at Masjid Al-Hussaini near Civil Hospital Thul, coinciding with Milad-un-Nabi and 11th Sharif of Ghaus-ul-Azam. The event featured naats by renowned reciters and speeches by Maulana Shafiq Ahmed Madni and Maulana Muhammad Shafi Sarki, who also prayed for Pakistan's peace and ended with Langar distribution.

who also prayed for Pakistan's peace and ended with Langar distribution.

Horror in Jacobabad as Man Murders Wife Over Mobile Photo

By Hashim Brohi



JACOBABAD: A Jacobabad man named Abdul Wahab Brohi shot and killed his 20-year-old wife, Hafsa alias Sanam, inside their house and then fled. Upon receiving information, the police reached the scene, took custody of the body, and moved it to the civil hospital. After the necessary procedures, the body was handed over to the heirs. In the initial investigation, the police stated that the husband became enraged after seeing a picture of an unrelated man on his wife's mobile memory card, which opened her, which resulted in her dying on the spot. The police have registered a case regarding the incident, and raids are being conducted to arrest the accused.

60,000 Women Axed from BISP Lists in Badin Spark Outcry

By Sher Ali Khawaja

TANDO BAGO: The Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) names were cut without any prior notice or explanation. Around 6,000 of those removed belong to backward villages in Tando Bago taluka. According to the

cuts have been repeatedly visiting centers to check their status, causing large crowds and confusion. They have appealed to President Asif Ali Zardari, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, and BISP Chairperson Rubina Khalid to restore their vital financial support.

EDITORIAL

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

Tuesday, October 07, 2025



The Extortion Menace Returns to Haunt Karachi's Business Community

Karachi, Pakistan's economic lifeline, is once again choking under a suffocating wave of crime, fear, and lawlessness. The recent security advisory issued by the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) paints a grim picture — one that exposes the city's alarming descent into chaos. Extortion calls, accompanied by bullets and threats, have returned with a vengeance, forcing business owners to live in dread.

This comes as the Citizens-Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) reports a staggering 51 murders in September alone — mostly citizens gunned down while resisting robberies. Over 3,000 motorcycles and 1,500 mobile phones were

snatched in a single month. Each figure isn't just



a statistic; it's a chilling reminder that Karachi's streets have become hunting grounds for armed predators.

For a metropolis that drives Pakistan's economy, this breakdown of law and order is nothing short of catastrophic. The state's inability to protect its business community — the very backbone of its financial stability — reflects a colossal governance failure. Despite countless operations and

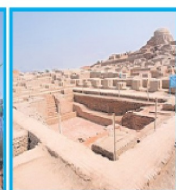
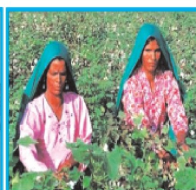
hollow assurances, the city remains under siege by street gangs, extortionists, and mafias who act with impunity.

It is time for the authorities to stop living in denial. The wool must be pulled off their eyes to face Karachi's horrifying reality — a city where fear now dictates daily life, where commerce thrives only under threat, and where justice has become a distant concept.

If this spiral isn't stopped now, the consequences will go far beyond Karachi — shaking the very foundations of Pakistan's already fragile economy. This is not merely a law and order issue anymore; it is a full-blown crisis of governance and survival.

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Open Katchahry Grills NGOs on Performance in Nawabshah

By Samad Ayaz

NAWABSHAH: Under the directives of the Provincial Ombudsman Sindh, an open Katchahry was held at the Social Welfare Office chaired by Regional Director Khan Muhammad Zardari. The meeting reviewed the performance of social organizations working in Nawabshah district. The Regional Director emphasized accelerating public welfare projects focusing on education, health, clean drinking



water, and agriculture in underprivileged areas. Representatives from multiple NGOs, including SAFCO and Thardeep Rural Development

Bhand Community Rises Against Police Brutality and Land Grab in Kashmir

By Aijaz Jokhio

DAULATPUR: Daulatpur residents protested against Kashmir police and influential groups for illegally occupying their 60-acre survey land. They accused SHO Asad Rajpar and Naib Tehsil-dar Muhammad Ali Otho of taking bribes and filing false cases against 28 community members. Two men were reportedly forcibly disappeared. The protesters demanded immediate action from Sindh's IG, DIG, and SSP to cancel false cases and restore their land rights.

Sindh Unveils Hockey Trials Schedule Ahead of 35th National Games

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The schedule for men's and women's hockey team selection trials for the 35th National Games in Sindh has been announced. Initial trials will start simultaneously on October 9th at regional headquarters across Sindh, while final trials will be held in Karachi. The trials will take place at centers in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur, Larkana, Mirpurkhas, and Shaheed Benazirabad. The selection committees include Olympians and international players, with final trials set for October 11th (women) and 12th (men) at KHE Sports Complex in Karachi.

Armed Gang Raids Electronics Shop in Jacobabad, Escapes with Cash and Goods

By Hashim Brohi

JACOBABAD: Armed robbers attacked Vishal Kumar's electronics shop in Shah Bhittai Bazaar, Jacobabad. The culprits held the shopkeeper hostage at gunpoint, stealing cash amounting to 400,000 rupees and mobile phones before escaping. Upon receiving the report, traders' association president Ahmed Ali Brohi, Hindu Panchayat leader Lal Chand Sitalani, and police officials arrived at the scene and gathered details. They demanded immediate arrest of the criminals and urged enhanced police presence to curb rising crimes in the city.

Sukkur Commissioner Pushes Industry Tours, Skill Programs for Youth

By Absar Alvi

SUKKUR: Commissioner Sukkur Division Abid Saleem Qureshi held a meeting with officials of Sindh Small Industries Corporation, SITE, and industrial departments to promote youth skill development. He emphasized organizing industrial study tours for university students and seminars on employment opportunities in industries. He advocated for short courses in skills and computer literacy, collaboration with social organizations, and online marketing of local products like dates and handicrafts. Officials pledged full cooperation and promised a joint framework soon.

Over 825,000 Women Empowered Through Sindh's Mumta Health Program

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: More than 825,000 women have been enrolled in Sindh Government's "Mumta Program," receiving essential maternal and child health services. Specialist Ms. Huma Halipoto shared these details at a consultative meeting organized by the Sindh Social Protection Authority. The program runs in 15 districts,



aiming to reduce unsafe institutional births. Around 850,000 women have registered since its 2021 launch, proving pregnancy registrations, and promote

Panjal Khan Sangi Visits NDF Center, Praises Work for Disabled in Larkana

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Renowned social activist Panjal Khan Sangi visited the NDF Rehabilitation Center in Larkana and praised its free services for children with intellectual disabilities. NDF President Abid Lashari briefed him about therapies and transport facilities offered in collaboration with the



Sindh government, further strengthen these vital rehabilitation services for underserved children in the region.

Talhar Set for Major Uplift Under Ghulam Ali Talpur's Mega Project

TALHAR: PPP MNA Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur announced that Talhar city will soon be beautified under a mega development project. He was speaking at a reception hosted in his honor by PPP Labor Bureau Badin leader Saleem Khawaja at Rahimabad Ismaili Colony. Talpur said PPP has launched record development work in Sindh and vowed zero tolerance for corruption, stating he is committed to serving the people who elected him. Present were Mir



Abdul Aziz Jamali, Mir Nisar Khawaja, Sunil Irfan Talpur, Madam Zahida Kunbhar, Engr. Khawaja, Mirzo Khan Javed Ali Khawaja, Dilwani, Nezar Khawaja, Abdul Ghani Ansari, Nadeem Ali Khawaja, Mumtaz Pathan, Dr. and others.—RT

Citizens Rally in Chhor Demanding Enduring Peace and Security

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: Villagers Ajaz, Nohri, Dawood and social leaders staged a protest near the railway crossing in Chhor city, blocking the road and holding a sit-in against rising motorcycle thefts and robberies in Chhor

and surrounding areas. Leaders including Umar case from senior Karachi journalist Azad's suit. They criticized police for inaction and urged IG Ramesh, Saddam Mangrio, and Rafiq Nohri demanded the immediate arrest of suspects involved in motorcycle thefts, including a recent case from senior Karachi journalist Azad's suit. They criticized police for inaction and urged IG Ramesh, Saddam Mangrio, and Rafiq Nohri demanded the immediate arrest of suspects involved in motorcycle thefts, including a recent case from senior Karachi journalist Azad's suit.

Rajib Ali Hyderi Clinches Presidency at Imamia Students Unit Convention

By Sajid Ali Unar

QAZI AHMED: The Imamia Students Organization, Shaheed Arif Hussaini Unit, held a program at Central Imambargah Shah Najaf to mark the first anniversary of Shaheed Syed Hassan Nasrallah and the 6th Unit Convention. The event included Quran recitation, naats, and a special speech by Allama Syed



Nasar Hussain Naqvi, with majority votes. Rajib Ali Hyderi was elected unit president with majority votes. Flowers were offered in memory of martyrs.

SEPA Cracks Down on Polluting Vehicles in Hyderabad

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Under SEPA Director General Waqar's directives, SEPA Hyderabad team led by Imran Ali Abbasi conducted inspections on

Sakhi Pir Police Station Road. Several small and large vehicles emitting excessive smoke were challaned. Abbasi warned that toxic emissions cause serious health issues like brain hemorrhage

and lung cancer. The campaign promotes environment-friendly fuel use and engine maintenance to improve air quality in compliance with the Environmental Protection Act 2014.

Kot Ghulam Muhammad Erupts in Protest Over Journalist's Murder, Police Assault

By Zohaib Ali Baloch

KOT GHULAM MUHAMMAD: Journalists in Kot Ghulam Muhammad held a protest against the police raid on the National Press Club Islamabad and the killing of senior anchor and journalist Intiaz Mir in Karachi. The protest was attended by press club leaders and journalists, who condemned the police action and demanded legal action against those involved.



They also called for the immediate arrest and strict punishment of Intiaz Mir's killers, warning of nationwide protests if demands are not met.

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS



Pakistan Women's Blind Cricket Team Gear Up for Camp in Mirpur from October 25



LAHORE: The training camp for the Pakistan women's blind cricket team is set to commence on October 25 in Mirpur, ahead of the inaugural Women's T20 Blind Cricket World Cup 2025.

The Women's T20 Blind Cricket World Cup will be hosted by India and Sri Lanka from November 11 to 23.

A total of 15 matches, including both semi-finals and the final, will be played in Colombo, while nine matches will take place in India.

The semi-finals are scheduled for November 22, with the final to be held on November 23 in five officials.

The training camp will continue until November 8, following which the team is scheduled to depart for Sri Lanka on November 9.

South Africa Hit by Fresh Injury Jitters Before Pakistan Tests

South Africa have suffered an injury scare ahead of their upcoming Test series against Pakistan, as young fast bowler Kwen Maphaka is being assessed for a hamstring issue sustained during a domestic fixture.



The 19-year-old pacer, who was named in South Africa's second-string squad for the T20I against Namibia on October 11 and included in the white-ball squads for the Pakistan tour, picked up the injury while representing the Lions in a four-day match against Western Province at Newlands last week.

Maphaka bowled 5.5 overs in the first innings before leaving the field with discomfort. A scan revealed no serious damage, allowing him to return and take the new ball in the second innings.

He played a key role in the Lions' emphatic 134-run victory, claiming 3 for 26 in 10 overs.

The youngster will undergo a precautionary MRI scan to confirm his fitness ahead of South Africa's packed international schedule.

Despite his limited first-class experience—just six matches, including two Tests—Maphaka is seen as an emerging talent and is expected to feature in South Africa's assignments against Pakistan and India in the coming months.

Meanwhile, South Africa will play Namibia in a one-off T20I on Saturday to inaugurate the new stadium in Windhoek. The fixture coincides with the eve of the Test team's World Test Championship (WTC) title defence in Pakistan.

Several frontline players, including captain Aiden Markram, will miss the Namibia clash. Donovan Ferreira will lead the side, marking the international return of Quinton de Kock, who recently reversed his ODI retirement.

The first Test between Pakistan and South Africa will be held at Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium from October 12-16, followed by the second Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium from October 20-24.—Agency

Sevilla Humiliate Barcelona as Defending Champions' Title Dreams Crumble



SEVILLE: Barcelona's line, but a late collapse saw the hosts add two more top of La Liga suffered a major setback as they fell to a humiliating 4-1 defeat against a vibrant Sevilla at the Ramon Sanchez-Pizjuan Stadium.

The reigning champions were punished for a series of defensive lapses, with Isaac Romero and former Barcelona midfielder Ivan Rakitic firing Sevilla into a commanding 2-0 lead before halftime.

A goal from Fermin Lopez just before the break offered Barcelona a life-

club.—Agency

Chess Uprou: Nakamura Sparks Outrage After Tossing Gukesh's King in 'Checkmate' Show

ARLINGTON: Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura ignited a storm of criticism after throwing Gukesh Dommaraju's king into the crowd following his victory in an exhibition event, 'Checkmate' USA vs India, held in Arlington.



The gesture, seen by many as disrespectful and unnecessary, dominated post-match discussions despite a 5-0 win.

The Americans swept the match, establishing a commanding lead in the competition. However, it was Nakamura's extravagant post-win celebration, picking up Gukesh's king and tossing it in the audience, which truly captured global attention.

The dramatic event quickly went viral, dividing fans and chess enthusiasts.

While some viewers appreciated the entertainment value, others criticized the act as inappropriate.

However, a senior FIDE official, Emil Sutovsky, expressed disapproval on Twitter (X). "The event was a show. Fans were ecstatic. Players were encouraged to behave accordingly. All true. Now, for better or worse, name me one top player who would do what Hikaru did," Sutovsky tweeted.

In response, Checkmate organisers issued a sarcastic statement by saying: "On behalf of the organisers, we admit having forced the players to have fun, to please the crowd, and to forego the FIDE Etiquette. We sincerely apologize if the players, the live audience, and the vast majority of online viewers had a good time."

Former World Champion Vladimir Kramnik also condemned the act, calling it 'tasteless' and 'vulgar'.

"I don't know who came up with this childish, tasteless act. Likely this 'thinker' had no specific intention to humiliate Gukesh, but could have realised that this public gesture using the opponent's KING looks offensive and provocative, especially against the World Champion," Kramnik posted on X.

However, sources close to the event suggested the act was pre-planned.

Chess YouTuber Levy Rozman clarified that players had been encouraged to 'break the king' as part of the show's entertainment concept, rather than as a personal insult to Gukesh.—Agency

Piastri Set to Quit McLaren in 2027 Bombshell Report

Oscar Piastri is considering a move from McLaren to a £3.8bn-valued F1 team in 2027, according to a report of the Swiss outlet Blick.

Piastri was not happy at the end of the Singapore Grand Prix as his teammate Lando Norris bumped him and Max Verstappen's cars in the process to move from fifth to third position on the opening lap.

Piastri, on the team radio, complained to his McLaren team during the race, accusing the Briton of "barging him out of the way".

The stewards looked into the incident and gave it a

green signal, saying no further action was necessary, while McLaren stated that they will look into the matter and will decide accordingly after the race.

McLaren have clinched back-to-back constructors' championships for the first time in more than 30 years. While Norris was celebrating his 14th podium of the season at the Singapore Grand Prix, alongside winner George Russell and Max Verstappen, who finished second and a group of McLaren staff celebrated on the rostrum.—Agency

Orlando Magic Snap Up Razorback Star Johnell Davis



The Orlando Magic added undrafted Arkansas guard Johnell Davis to their roster and dismissed small forward Justin Minaya to keep the team limited to 21 players on Sunday night.

The Magic did not disclose terms for Davis, who signed a one-year, non-guaranteed Exhibit 10 deal, which can be converted into a two-way deal with their G League affiliate, the Osceola Magic, before the start of the regular season.

The 26-year-old, Minaya, appeared in 57 games (one start) for the Portland Trail

Blazers over the past three seasons. During the 2024-25 campaign, he featured in 19 games with 1.7 points, 1.4 rebounds and 10.0 minutes per contest.

Morever, he spent most of last season in the G League and later joined Orlando as a free agent on September 2.

Meanwhile, the 24-year-old Davis wrapped up his college career at Arkansas in 2024-25, starting 29 of 34 games and averaging 12.0 points, 3.4 rebounds, 3.6 assists, 1.4 steals and 31.7 minutes.—Agency

Selection Storm Brews Over Asif Afridi's Test Squad Inclusion

LAHORE: The inclusion of 38-year-old spinner Asif Afridi in Pakistan's Test squad for the upcoming two-match home series against South Africa has sparked debate within cricket circles, sources told Geo News on Monday.



According to sources, several concerns have been raised over selecting the veteran spinner instead of a younger player.

The issue of Afridi's recent completion of an anti-corruption suspension has also been discussed within the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

A member of the selection committee confirmed that Afridi has been included as a potential re-

placement for Noman Ali, who remains the team's first-choice spinner but could be replaced if he faces fitness issues.

"Noman Ali is our first choice, but if there's a fitness issue, we need an experienced bowler," a selection committee member explained.

"There shouldn't be an age restriction. If a player is needed, he should be allowed to play," the official added, emphasising experience over age.

The member further stated that Asif has consistently performed in domestic cricket and the Pakistan Super League (PSL), while declining to disclose reasons behind the omission of certain other players.

It is pertinent to mention that the left-arm spinner has played 57 first-class matches, claiming 198 wickets at an economy of 2.92. His tally includes 13 five-wicket hauls and two ten-wicket match hauls.

Afridi was also the stand-out performer in the recently concluded Hanif Mohammad Trophy 2025-26, where he represented FATA Region.

He finished as the leading wicket-taker of the tournament with 33 wickets in five matches at an economy of 2.33.—Agency

Sidra Amin Shines with Record Six, Faces ICC Reprimand



Pakistan's Sidra Amin match, Sidra was reprimanded for breaching the first Pakistani woman to hit a six against India in Conduct (Article 2.2), re-an ODI, scoring a brilliant 81 runs during their ICC Women's World Cup 2025 clash in Colombo. Despite her heroic performance, India triumphed by 88 runs. Post-counter.—RT

REGIONAL TIMES ENTERTAINMENT

Mandy Moore Credits Hollywood Longevity to Life Before Social Media Chaos



Mandy Moore says an early start in Hollywood had her at an advantage.

This Is Us actress, 41, opened up about her career during a Sept. 26 Q&A at the 2025 Inspiration Awards in Los Angeles.

"I feel really, really lucky," Moore, 41, began as she reflected on starting her career at 15 in 1999.

"I could go to the mall, go to amusement parks, even the homecoming dance with friends. I never felt like I had to choose one day. I could figure it out step by step."

Moore noted this balance gave her the longevity she still enjoys today, more than two decades after her debut single Candy.

Now a mother of three with husband Taylor Goldsmith, the actress admitted that self-doubt still creeps in.

"I'm my own worst critic," she said. "But nobody has it all figured out. Life is a roller coaster, and you just keep putting one foot in front of the other."

She also added that keeping perspective outside of Hollywood helps her stay centered. "I'm a mother, wife, daughter, sister, friend. That's who I am," Moore concluded.

Taylor Swift Unveils Dramatic 'Fate of Ophelia' Music Video in Global Drop



Taylor Swift has officially released the music video for her new single The Fate of Ophelia.

The music video emerged during her limited-run theater event The Life of a Showgirl two days earlier.

Directed by Swift herself, the video mixes Shakespeare-inspired visuals with personal touches for fans to spot. In one scene, she wears a white gown that recalls the famous painting of Ophelia, before switching into a glittering dress and red wig inspired by other historic depictions of the character.

The video then turns fighter with modern costumes. The overall theme suggests that fiancé Travis Kelce's love saved her from Ophelia's tragic fate. Does this look better?

Fans also spotted personal nods, from sourdough bread (a hobby she's mentioned) to her catching a football—a wink to Kelce's NFL career. The video dropped alongside Swift's new album and its companion theater film, running through behind-the-scenes footage and lyric videos.

Naomi Watts Opens Up on Emotional Pre-Marriage Moment with Billy Crudup



Naomi Watts opened up about a vulnerable moment she shared with her husband Billy Crudup that deepened bond before they got married.

In a recent chat at The Swell's fourth annual Menopause Symposium on October 4, 2025 in New York City, the Oscar-winning actress revealed the "intimate" moment with Maria Shriver and Alisa Volkman.

"The real thing that gave me the courage to write the book and open [up] was my husband. I met me, it's great you take him in my late 40s and I your health into your hands, and tell me how I quickly at the [first] moment we were getting down to business to remove my estrogen patch, as it would be awful for him to see, of course!" she began.

The 57-year-old actress went on to say, "So I slipped away, and came out flushed and he asked if everything was ok, so I just said, 'um you know, well, um, I have this thing on me and it left a mark, and its estrogen because I'm old and should I just leave?'" And he said, "honey thanks for telling up) was my husband. I met me, it's great you take him in my late 40s and I your health into your hands, and tell me how I quickly at the [first] moment we were getting down to business to remove my estrogen patch, as it would be awful for him to see, of course!" she began.

Face of the Day



Name: Talat Khan
About me: I'm Karachi's Gaming Maestro who Loves Being in the Spotlight!

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

REGIONAL TIMES THE HEARTLAND

Mystery Theft: Iron Rods Vanish from Mukhtiarkar's Office in Digri

By Farooq Randhawa

DIGRI: Unknown thieves broke into the Mukhtiarkar Office building in Digri and stole iron rods from windows and doors. The office had been closed since September 23 due to a staff protest and was reopened on Monday. Upon inspection, it was discovered that iron rods from four windows of the Mukhtiarkar's room and the old record room, as well as iron strips from the main



gate, had been stolen. Fortunately, all official records remained safe. As of the latest

reports, no FIR had been registered by the concerned authorities.

PTI Labour Wing Jhudo Marks Imran Khan's 73rd Birthday with Zeal

By Shahid Majeed

JHUDDO: Under the leadership of Iqbal Ghori, PTI Labour Wing Jhudo celebrated Imran Khan's 73rd birthday. Attendees included Rais Shamsan Ali Khan Laghari, Faizan Umar Daraz Qaimkhani, Ali Raza Qaimkhani, Abdul Hannan Rajput, Himayat Ali Khan Qaimkhani, Mumtaz Jatt, Kamran Umeed Qaimkhani, and others. New members Advocate Muhammad



Azam Qaimkhani, Aslam Ghori joined PTI. Iqbal Ghori welcomed them warmly and thanked all participants for their support.

Tando Allahyar Woman Pleads for Protection from Abusive Family

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: Rozina Chandio, a resident of UC Bukera Sharif, appealed for justice at Tando Allahyar Press Club, accusing her father Asht Qambrani and brothers of abusing her daughter Subia Chandio and attempting to sell her. She claimed police ignored multiple complaints and are siding with influential people



trying to occupy Fahmida Lashari's house, DIG Hyderabad, and SSP Tando Allahyar to take action and provide protection.

PML-N Sindh Chief Bashir Memon Rallies Support in Tando Allahyar

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: PML-N Sindh President Bashir Ahmed Memon arrived on a private visit and was warmly welcomed by party workers with floral showers at Bypass Road. Speaking to the media, Memon clarified that Maryam Nawaz's remarks about "Hamara Pani, Hamari Marzi" (Our Water, Our Decision) were misunderstood and misrepresented.



sented to harm PML-N's politics. He criticized PTI for opposing Pakistan's progress and emphasized ongoing efforts for national development. He also stated minor misunderstandings between PML-N and PPP are being resolved by senior leadership. District leaders including Mian Aslam Arain, Akram Otho, and Rao Mal Bheel were present.

Minister Kohistani Backs Maryam Nawaz's Stand Against Punjab Interference

By Javed Laghari

DADU: Federal Minister and PML-N leader Khaseel Das Kohistani held a press conference in Dadu, addressing party workers. He stated that canal issues are under the Council of Common Interests (CCI) and no canal can be built without provincial consent. He criticized PPP for interfering in Punjab's affairs and in this regard Maryam Nawaz warned Asif Ali Zardari and Bilawal Bhutto to respect provincial matters. Kohistani defended



Punjab's water rights, saying the 1991 accord governs water distribution. He condemned PPP for mismanagement in Sindh and urged them to focus on their own province. On the occasion, Raja Ansari, Zahida Bhand, Surath Thabito, and Asif Rajpar also spoke.

Unidentified Youth Found Unconscious Near Samaro, Rushed to Hyderabad

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: An unconscious young man was found near Samaro Main Road, close to Abdullah Garden Marriage Hall in Jhudo area. Locals informed the police,

who arrived and took the man to Samaro Taluka Hospital. Doctors confirmed he was unconscious due to internal injuries and provided initial treatment. After identification by his sister Marvi Kolhi and relative Mohan Kolhi, the 24-year-old Neelo son of Tito Kolhi was referred to Hyderabad for advanced care. The injury resulted from a recent road accident near Sufi Faqir area after a motorcycle slip.

DC Yousif Shaikh Salutes Educators on World Teachers' Day



By Sajad Ali Abbasi

MATIARI: Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Yousif Shaikh termed teaching a prophetic profession while addressing a ceremony at Government MDM Boys High School on World Teachers' Day. He praised sincere teachers who shape students into responsible citizens. Additional DC-II Iqra Janat, educationists, and civil society members also addressed the event. Earlier, a rally led by DC Sheikh began from Degree College Matiari to the school, joined by Assistant Commissioner Abdul Sattar Sheikh, teachers, students, and officials. The event highlighted the vital role teachers play in education, character building, and national progress.

UNIDO-PAIDAR Team Tours Pakistan's First Giant Prawn Hatchery in Gharo



By Daim Shah

GHARO: A delegation from UNIDO and the EU's PAIDAR Programme visited Pak GHARO Agri & Livestock Farms to review progress on Pak ROS, Pakistan's first all-male giant freshwater prawn hatchery. Delegates including Carlo De Rosa and UNIDO officials were briefed by

CEO Arshad Aziz on the integrated, climate-smart farming model. The team also discussed the upcoming Aquaculture Training Centre, set to empower farmers and youth.

The delegation praised Pak GHARO's innovative efforts in promoting sustainable aquaculture and boosting the blue economy in Pakistan.

Tragedy in Hyderabad as Private Lineman Electrocuted on Duty

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: A private lineman hired by HESCO's Qasimabad Subdivision SDO Jaman Jamani died from electrocution while repairing a bank's electric line. Instead of taking responsibility, the SDO filed a police complaint against the deceased. The incident has sparked outrage, with calls for HESCO CEO Faizullah Dahri to suspend the SDO and launch a transparent investigation into the negligence that led to the worker's tragic death.

Young Man Dies of Snakebite Near Samaro

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: A 26-year-old villager, Muhammad Umer son of Ameer Bux, passed away after being bitten by a poisonous snake while sleeping in his courtyard last week ago in the village Ameer Bux Halipota, near Samaro. He was first taken to a local hospital and later referred to Hyderabad in critical condition.

HESCO Promotes Officers, Grants Upgrade to Retiree

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: The Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO) has announced the promotion of eight serving officers and the upgrade of one retired officer following approvals from the HESCO Board of Directors and the Privatiza-

tion Commission. Among the promotions, Riaz Ahmed Pathan was elevated to General Manager (Technical) and Abdul Haq Shaikh to Director General (MM/Procurement), both from BPS-19 to BPS-20. Six Executive Engineers, including Sabeeh-ul-Zaman Abbasi, Manzoor Ali Magasi, and others, were promoted to Superintending Engineers (BPS-19). Additionally, retired officer Muhammad Ayub Afridi was granted an upgrade to BPS-20 with effect from April 15, 2017. HESCO CEO Faizullah Dahri congratulated the officers, emphasizing dedication and integrity as the pillars of public service.

Israni's Mobile Healthcare Brings Relief to Kohistan's Remote Villages

By Shaukat Khasakheli

THANA BULA KHAN: Following special directives from Sindh Chief Minister's advisor Gianchand Israni, the Rehabilitation Department deployed a Medical Mobile Unit to the remote Kohistan area of Taung Sharif. The unit, staffed by both male and female medical professionals, is equipped with X-ray, ultrasound, ECG, and other facilities. Starting tomorrow, the team will visit various villages in UC Tong, in-



cluding Qutbuddin Lohar, Khan Muhammad Lohar, and Yusuf Khaskheli, to provide free check-ups, treatment, and tests to impoverished residents, bringing joy to the local community.

SSP Saleem Shah Issues Appointment Orders to 16 New ASIs

By Afaq Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: SSP Tando Allahyar, Syed Saleem Shah, distributed offer orders to 16 candidates selected as Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) through the Sindh Public Service Commission. Congratulating the successful candidates, SSP Saleem Shah advised them to uphold honesty, dedication, and public service throughout their careers. He emphasized that the core duty of the police



force is to protect lives and property and prevent crime. He expressed hope the newly appointed officers will enhance the reputation and integrity of the Sindh Police Department.

Bloody Day of Robberies: Trader Shot, Shopkeeper Killed in Sindh Crime Spree

THATTA: In a violent spree across Sindh, robbers looted Rs 1.8 million from trader Ghaznafar Badani near Oji Mosque in Thatta, leaving him critically injured after a gun attack. He is being treated at Civil Hospital Thatta. Meanwhile, in

Noor Alam was killed while resisting a robbery. He shot dead one of the assailants, later identified as repeat offender Rahim. Separately, another man was shot dead in Landhi's Sherpao Colony by two unidentified attackers—RT

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT KARACHI METROPOLITAN CORPORATION Camp Office # 01, Behind Dawood Engineering University Engineering Department K.M.C. Muslimabad Karachi. No. CPC/ED/KMC/2025-26/03/Karachi Dated: 03-10-2025					
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS					
(Method of Procurement: Single Stage - Two Envelope Procedure)					
Tenders are invited E-Bid through newly method of "EPADS" on Single Stage Two Envelope Procedure from eligible bidders as per details below, strictly in accordance with SPPRA's E-Procurement submission requirements.					
S#	Name of Scheme	Estimated Cost Rs.	Bid Security	Tender Cost Rs.	PEC Category with Codes
1	CONSTRUCTION OF BIRD AVIARY AT KIDNEY HILL PARK (ADP # 2003/2025-26)	199,999,745/-	5% of Bid Amount	5,000/-	Valid PEC License in Category C-4 or above alongwith the fields of specialization codes CE01, CE09, CE10, EE06
2	DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC PARK AND GROUND AT GUTTERS BASHCHHA (ADP # 2004/2025-26)	147,399,940/-	5% of Bid Amount	5,000/-	Valid PEC License in Category C-4 or above alongwith the fields of specialization codes CE01, CE09, CE10, EE06
MANDATORY REQUIREMENT:					
a) The participants must quote their rates both in words and figures. b) Bid should be signed along with company's stamp. c) Bid Security (Earnest Money) should be submitted on the A/C of the Company / Firm of the participant. d) Pay Order of the Bid Security shall be uploaded along with Bid on the website of "EPADS" SPPRA Sindh as well as shall be submitted physically in the Office of the Chairman Procurement Committee situated at Behind Dawood Engineering University Engineering Department K.M.C. Muslimabad Karachi before opening of the Bid. e) Integrity Pact on the Stamp Paper worth Rs.150/- f) The bidder shall submit non-refundable Tender's cost as mentioned in the NIT in the shape of Pay Order from any scheduled Bank of Pakistan in favour of Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) at the time of the submission.					
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:					
a) Copy of CNIC b) Valid PEC License in relevant field of specialization codes (where applicable). c) Valid NTN Certificate (The bidder shall be an active Tax payer List of Federal Board of Revenue (FBR)). d) Valid SRB Registration Certificate (The bidder shall be an active Tax payer List of Sindh Revenue Board (SRB)). e) Valid Professional Tax Certificate. f) Valid Electrical License from Government of Sindh (Karachi Region). g) Affidavit / Undertaking regarding Firm never been black listed OR not involved in any Court Case/Litigation with any Government/Semi Government Department for the last five years. h) Annual Audit / Turnover at least not less than equivalent cost of the scheme / project during last five years (as required and mentioned in Bidding Documents). i) Annual Audit Report of last five years from (ICAP) Registration Audit Firms, Audit Report issued other than (ICAP) registered audit firms will not be accepted. j) List of Machinery and Equipment available with documentary evidence of its ownership / Lease / rented (as required and mentioned in Bidding Documents). k) At least one similar nature of work having minimum cost 80% of the estimated cost of work. OR At least two similar nature works each having minimum cost 50% of the estimated cost for last five years duly supported with Completion Certificate. l) Valid date of Engineering and Technical Staff working with the firm as required and mentioned in bidding documents.					
TERMS & CONDITIONS:					
1. Bidding / Tender Documents: Bidding Documents shall be downloaded from the website of "EPADS" (http://portal.sindh.eprocurement.gov.pk) of SPPRA Sindh. 2. Submission Date: All Bids (Technical & Financial) must be submitted ONLINE only via the SPPRA e-Procurement System "EPADS" (http://portal.sindh.eprocurement.gov.pk) both the Technical and Financial Proposal shall be submitted/uploaded in respective sections and manual physical submissions will not be accepted. 3. Bid shall be submitted online on or before 24-10-2025 by 11:00 AM and only the Technical Bid will be initially opened on the same date at 11:30 AM at the Office of the Chairman Procurement Committee Engineering Department KMC in the presence of the Procurement Committee as well as the presence of the Contractor or their authorized representatives of interested bidders, if desired. 4. Funded Through: Provincial ADP (2025-26). 5. Bid Validity Period: 90 Days. 6. Under following Conditions bid will be rejected: i) Hard Copy of Bid or by Hand bid will not be accepted. ii) Conditional Bid / submitted after specified date and time. iii) Bid uploaded / submitted after specified date and time. iv) Black listed firm. v) Submitted Documents, if found forged at any stage. vi. Pay-Order of the Bid Security not submitted physically. 7. The competent authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals subject to the relevant provision of SPPRA Rules. 8. Interested bidders are advised to register their firm(s) / company(s) on SPPRA website of "EPADS" (http://portal.sindh.eprocurement.gov.pk) for submission of e-bid. 9. The technical proposals submitted by the bidders will be evaluated by Procurement Committee as per evaluation criteria and mandatory requirements given in the Technical Proposal and thereafter Financial proposals of technically qualified bidders will be opened by the same Committee on the date and time to be communicated to the bidders. 10. The financial proposals of the bidders, found technically non-responsive shall be returned unopened to the respective bidders. 11. In case the date of opening or last date of sale is declared as a public holiday by the Government or non-working day due to any reason, the next working day shall be deemed to be the date for last date of sale and submission and opening of tenders accordingly. The time and venue shall remain the same. 12. Bid Security: Bid Security as mentioned above in shape of pay order or Bank Guarantee (on specified Performa) attached with the Technical Offer in favor of Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) shall be enclosed as follows: a) Rs. 10.00 Million shall be enclosed with Technical Offer Envelope as part of Bid Security. Otherwise the bid will not be evaluated. b) Balance Bid Security Amount after deducting Rs. 10.00 Million shall be enclosed with Financial Offer Envelopes in case of non-compliance, the part of Bid Security attached with the technical offer shall be forfeited. c) The Bid Security of qualified and non-qualified bidders will be retained for finalization to award of work. 13. Pre-bidding in connection with tendering is strictly prohibited and proposals submitted by the contractors who are reported to be involved in canvassing are liable for rejection. 14. Bid Conference will be held on 17-10-2025 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Chairman Procurement Committee KMC. The bidders are requested to submit any clarifications in writing to reach the employer not later than one week before the meeting.					
Chairman Procurement Committee Engineering Department Karachi Metropolitan Corporation					
KMC/MMD/73/2025					

METRO KARACHI

Murad, GB Governor Join Forces to Tackle Floods and Boost Tourism

Karachi: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah met with Gilgit-Baltistan Governor Syed Mehdi Shah to discuss the recent floods in Gilgit-Baltistan and matters of mutual interest. According to the spokesperson, both leaders exchanged views on relief efforts and the overall situation in the flood-affected areas.

Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah expressed solidarity with the people of Gilgit-Baltistan, stating that Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and the Sindh government have always stood by them in times of hardship.—RT/Agency

Saeed Ghani Accuses PML-N of Double Game, Says Punjab Stirring Unrest

Karachi: Sindh Labour Minister Saeed Ghani has criticized the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leadership for issuing conflicting statements, saying that while the party's leaders in the National Assembly and Senate say one thing, the Punjab government acts differently the next day, worsening matters.



Speaking to the media, Ghani questioned, "Whom is the Punjab government trying to put in trouble?" He said that all matters were moving smoothly, yet certain actions appear to be deliberately creating conditions that could alienate the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) from the federal coalition.—RT/Agency

Police Gun Down Key Player in Samad Kathiawari Extortion Ring

Karachi: A key shooter of the notorious Samad Kathiawari extortion network was killed during a joint operation conducted by the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) and CIA police in Karachi.

According to SSP SIU Amjad Sheikh, the suspect, identified as Ehtishamuddin alias Asif Burger,

opened indiscriminate fire on the police during the encounter and was killed in retaliatory action. The officer said that despite heavy firing from the suspect, police personnel remained unharmd due to their bullet-proof vests.

Police recovered a

weapon, several rounds of ammunition, and a motorcycle from the deceased suspect's possession. Authorities confirmed that Ehtishamuddin was wanted in more than 13 serious criminal cases, including extortion, robbery, possession of illegal weapons, and street crimes.—RT/Agency

Gulistan-e-Johar Eatery Closes Doors in Bold Protest Against Extortion Racket

Karachi: A restaurant owner in Karachi's Gulistan-e-Johar area has temporarily closed his eatery in protest against what he described as the "system's extortion." A banner placed outside the restaurant read: "System ki bhatta

khori ke khilaf restaurant band hai" (The restaurant is closed against the system's extortion) Another message displayed at the site stated: "Jo daftar mein bethay hain

wo pakka ke daku hain, jo gharon mein daka daltey hain wo kachay ke daku hain" (Those sitting in offices are seasoned robbers, while those looting homes are petty ones).—RT/Agency

PPP Backs Grand Finale of Shaheed-e-Pakistan Football Tournament in Karachi

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Nazeer Ahmed Bhutto, President of PPP PS-86 Malir and Chairman of Ibrahim Hyderi Town Municipal Corporation, attended the All Karachi Shaheed-e-Pakistan Super-8 Memorial Football Tournament prize distribution ceremony at Muzaffarabad Football Stadium as the chief guest.



Many players and organizers participated. Bhutto praised the role of sports in promoting discipline, unity, and positive thinking among youth. He assured full support from Ibrahim Hyderi Town for sports facilities, highlighting PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's commitment to empowering youth through sports.

Vicky Kumar Kohistani Condemns Indian Forces' Atrocities in Tharparkar

By Asif Qureshi

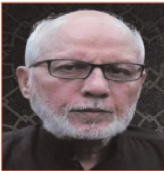
KARACHI: Political and social leader Vicky Kumar Kohistani condemned the brutal firing by Indian forces in Tharparkar, which resulted in the death of eight goats and injuries to dozens more. Speaking to the media, he expressed deep sorrow over the



incident and vowed not to tolerate cruelty against innocent animals in Sandriani village. He assured that the Sindh government and Hindu community stand firmly with the affected owners and will provide all possible assistance. Kohistani called the Indian forces' actions a violation of peace and an insult to humanity.

Reverence and Reflection as Karachi Marks Chehlum of Veteran Journalist Munawar Naqvi

KARACHI: A solemn Chehlum and Fateha Khawani for veteran journalist Syed Munawar Hussain Naqvi was held at Imam Bargah Yasrab, DHA, Karachi. Organized by his son Muhammad Abbas Naqvi and brother Manzoor Naqvi, the gathering drew prominent figures from media, academia, and



civil society. Allama Syed

Ammar Ali Shah Naqvi highlighted Munawar Naqvi's moral legacy, while tributes through Marsiya, Salam, and Nauha honored his contributions. Attendees praised his humility, integrity, and impact on journalism. Prayers were offered for his maghfrat and lasting peace.—RT

Dr. Zahid Ansari Leads Powerful Alzheimer's Awareness Seminar at FPCCI

KARACHI: Dr. Zahid Hasan Ansari, Former Secretary SBTAT and Chairman FPCCI's Medical & Health Sciences Committee, organized a powerful seminar on Alzheimer's prevention and management at Federation House. Key speaker Hania Kazmi of Vcare Society emphasized early awareness, while CEO Fatima Khalfan shared vital insights. Chief Guest



Muhammad Tariq Hassan, Special Assistant to CM Sindh, urged nationwide awareness. VP Asif Sakhi also addressed the crowd. The seminar saw

wide participation from doctors, nurses, NGOs, and philanthropists. Shields and certificates honored key contributors.—RT

Karachi Crime Surge: 51 Killed, Thousands Robbed in September

KARACHI: Karachi witnessed a deadly crime wave in September 2025, with 51 people killed—mostly resisting robberies—according to CPLC. The city saw 3,181 motorcycles



stolen, 517 snatched,

1,542 mobile phones mugged, and 190 vehicles either snatched or stolen. Armed criminals continue to wreak havoc, exposing growing lawlessness despite repeated crackdowns across the metropolis.—RT/Agency



Governor Tessori Issues Call for Architectural Innovation on World Architecture Day

Karachi: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori, in his special message on World Architecture Day, emphasized the importance of eco-friendly and sustainable construction. In his message, Governor Sindh stated, "Environment-friendly construction has become the need of the hour. For sustainable development, modern, safe, and responsible buildings



are essential. It is our collective duty to ensure environmental protection in the field of architecture."—RT/Agency

NBP Chief Rallies Financial Sector to Power Pakistan's Future



KARACHI: At the Pakistan Business Summit in Peshawar, NBP President & CEO Rehmat Ali Hasnain underscored the financial sector's vital role in national growth. Highlighting NBP's pioneering renewable financing, he linked the bank's profits to public welfare and

Pakistan's green transition. Hasnain emphasized financial inclusion, investor trust, and ecosystem development as key to sustainable progress. The event, themed "Shaping What's Next," gathered top industry leaders to explore reforms and drive impactful investment.—RT

Bilawal Bhutto Steps In: Sindh Halts Pension Reforms Amid Employee Pressure

KARACHI: On Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's directives and in response to Sindh Employees Alliance demands, the Sindh Cabinet suspended recent pension reform notifications issued in July and August 2025. A committee, including government officials and SEA members, will reassess the reforms. The Cabinet also agreed in principle to restructure the Benevolent Fund, aligning it with GP



fund retirement payments. Additionally, the Finance Secretary was tasked with presenting a plan for Group Insurance changes and financial impacts in the next meeting.—RT

Gulistan-e-Jauhar Boils as Residents Rage Over Power Cuts and Inflated Bills



By Dildar Seelro

KARACHI: Residents of Gulistan-e-Jauhar staged a five-hour sit-in outside K-Electric's Johar-I office, protesting 16-18 hours of unannounced load-shedding and inflated electricity bills. Led by community leaders, the protest saw participation

from multiple blocks. Protesters accused K-Electric of supporting illegal connections and failing to resolve power issues. K-Electric officials held talks with a protest committee and promised reduced outages and billing corrections. Residents warned of larger protests if commitments are not met.

Acting CJ Opens New Malir Bar Facilities, Calls for Ethical Judiciary

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Acting Chief Justice of the Sindh High Court, Justice Zafar Ahmed Rajput, has emphasized that the judiciary is working toward the development of all bar associations in Sindh, including Malir Bar. Speaking at

the inauguration of a new bank, dispensary, and mosque at Malir Bar, he said that justice can be expedited through mutual consensus between the bar and bench. He added, "A true lawyer values humanity over fees and acts with awareness, not just noise."

SSGC Strikes Karachi Gas Mafia as Court Denies Bail in Billion-Rupee Theft Case



KARACHI: SSGC's anti-gas theft drive, Operation Grift, scored a major legal victory as courts rejected bail for notorious gas thief Allah Wadhwa in five cases involving illegal supply to over 4,700 homes. Along with accomplices, he faces recovery of over

Rs. 5.1 billion. In another blow, flour mill owner Humayun Bashir was jailed for meter tampering, with losses amounting to Rs. 613 million. SSGC vows continued aggressive prosecution to eliminate gas theft and safeguard public resources.—RT/Agency

President Zardari Summons Mohsin Naqvi to Karachi as Sindh-Punjab Rift Deepens

Karachi: President Asif Ali Zardari held a telephonic conversation with Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi to discuss the growing tensions between the Sindh and Punjab governments.



According to official sources, President Zardari expressed concern over the escalating situation and emphasized the need for immediate dialogue to resolve the matter amicably. During the conversation, he directed the interior minister to visit Karachi urgently for consultations and to help ease the

inter-provincial discord. The contact comes amid reports of increasing friction between the two provincial administrations over administrative and political issues. President Zardari's interven-

tion is seen as an effort to prevent the situation from worsening and to ensure co-operation between the federal and provincial governments for national stability.—RT

Sharjeel Rips Punjab Govt: Stop Politicizing Flood Victims' Pain

KARACHI: Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon fiercely condemned Punjab's handling of flood relief, accusing them of empty photo ops and politics instead of real aid. Highlighting Sindh's construction of 2.1 million houses and solar panel distribution, he said Punjab offers only speeches



and token relief. Memon

urged Punjab to "put cameras aside" and genuinely help victims, criticizing the Rs. 300 packets with minimal supplies as mere publicity stunts. Emphasizing nonstop work for flood victims, he called Punjab's efforts "shameful" and urged a focus on real healing, not politics.—RT

Karachi Pays Tribute to Teachers with Bahar Awards on World Teachers' Day

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: On World Teachers' Day, the Bahar Foundation held a ceremony at Mumtaz Amari Public Library, Dhani Bakhsh Brohi Goth, to honor deserving teachers from all seven Karachi districts with the Bahar Manita Award. Chairman Muhammad Sachal Wadhwa praised teachers as beacons of knowledge and



social progress. Poets paid tribute, and distinguished guests attended the event, emphasizing teachers' crucial role in shaping minds and promoting peace, morality, and humanity in society.

Journalists Rally in Karachi Demanding Justice for Imtiaz Mir's Murder

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: Journalists from the West Press Club held a protest demanding the immediate arrest of the killers of martyred senior anchorperson Imtiaz Mir. They condemned the police for inaction despite FIR details and highlighted ongoing attacks on journalists, including Justice to intervene in recent violence in Is-



lamabad. The protest, nationwide, urged the Chief of police to ensure journalist ignored.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
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NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

1) Director Sayed Abdullah Shah Institute of Medical Science Sehwan invites sealed bids on DDP basis from well reputed manufacturer, authorized agents/importers/suppliers in Pakistan registered with Income Tax & GST in accordance with SPP Rule 46 Single Stage-Two envelope procedure for the Tender for the year 2025-26 as per SPP Rules 2010 (Amendment 2025) for following category.

TENDER NO	TENDER DESCRIPTION	TENDER FEE	BID SECURITY	Bid Submission & Bid Opening	Bidding Procedure
01	Procurement of DRUGS & MEDICINES (BULK)	Rs. 3000 In the shape of Pay Order in favor of DIRECTOR SAYED ABDULLAH SHAH INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SEHWAN	1% fixed as per mentioned in Annual Procurement Plan	Submission Up to 27-10-2025 at 11:30 am (EPADS) & Bid Opening on same day 27/10/2025 at 12:00 pm (EPADS)	Single Stage Two Envelope

2) Tender documents can be downloaded & submitted at SPPRA (EPADS) Website.

3) Bid shall include all Government Taxes or duties.

4) Tender fee of RS 3000 will be accepted in the shape of Pay Order in favor of DIRECTOR SAYED ABDULLAH SHAH INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SEHWAN. FTNF# 9030986-8

5) Fixed Bid Security @ 1% of the total estimation value as mentioned in Annual Procurement Plan by the bidder in shape of pay order/demand draft in favor of Director Sayed Abdullah Shah Institute of Medical Science Sehwan.FTNF#9030986- 8

6) Performance Security @ 1% of the total bid value of winning items by the successful bidder in shape of CDR/Bank Guarantee in favor of Director Sayed Abdullah Shah Institute of Medical Science Sehwan. FTNF# 9030986-8

7) The original sealed bid security must be submitted at Procurement Wing before the submission of the bids. Else declared as disqualification.

8) The tender receipt should be received from the procurement branch of the institute after submitting tender fees (in shape of Pay Order) and must be attached in the technical proposal. Else will be declared as disqualified.

9) In case of discrepancies between the Tender Notice and tender Documents, the Tender Documents shall take precedence.

10) In case of announcement of public holiday or any unfavorable circumstance, the bids shall be Opened on next working day.

11) The Director Sayed Abdullah Shah Institute of Medical Science Sehwan reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity of any item of schedules as and when it is deemed necessary according of SPPRS Rules 2010 (Amendment 2025). The procurement committee may reject all or any bids subject to the relevant provisions of SPP Rules 2010 (Amendment 2025).

DR.M.MOINUDDIN SIDDIQUI
DIRECTOR SAYED ABDULLAH SHAH
INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SEHWAN

INF-KRY No: 3129/25

If you build it, they will come.

—Joe Jackson

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TUESDAY OCTOBER 07 2025

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Pakistan, IMF Set To Redraw Budget Targets After Floods Wreck Fiscal Balance

ISLAMABAD: Amid the possibility of downward revision in the GDP growth as a direct consequence of the recent flash floods, Pakistan and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are heading towards making adjustments in the budgetary targets for the current fiscal year.

Initially, it was assessed that the floods might not have caused devastation, but now the Rapid Need Assessment (RNA) undertaken showed that the losses were rising and estimated at Rs650 billion in all the four provinces.

However, the losses and needs might go up further as



the international donors have not yet firmed up their assessment.

In order to unlock staff-level agreement under \$7 billion Extended Fund Facility (EFF) and Resilience Sus-

tainability Facility (RSF), Pakistan and the visiting IMF review mission are all set to finalise the budgetary framework for the current fiscal year.

Under the revised budget-

ary framework, the Federal Board of Revenue's (FBR) tax collection target will be revised downward from Rs14.13 trillion to Rs14.001 trillion, while the non-tax revenue target will also be slashed.

"The provinces have undertaken Rapid Need Assessment (RNA) and estimated losses of around Rs650 billion caused by the recent flash floods; however, the consortium of international donors, comprised of World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Union, and United Nations Development Programme, has yet to validate the losses estimated by

the federating units.

"There are certain gaps which have not yet been incorporated in the estimated losses," top official sources confirmed while talking to media here on Sunday.

On the GDP growth, the government envisaged a growth rate of 4.2% for the current fiscal year, and in the initial assessment, it was assessed that the floods might cause a downward revision from 4.2% to 3.9%.

Initially, the damage assessment estimated losses of Rs371 billion, but now it would definitely go up.—RT/Agency

Arrest Warrants Out For PTI's Omar Ayub, Top Leaders Over Sangjani Rally Unrest

ISLAMABAD: An anti-terrorism court (ATC) in the federal capital on Monday issued arrest warrants for several Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders in a case relating to the party's rally in Sangjani area back in September 2024.

ATC Judge Tahir Abbas Sipra conducted the hearing of the case today and issued arrest warrants for former National Assembly speaker Omar Ayub, PTI leader Zartaj Gul and party's Information Secretary Sheikh Waqas Akram.

Judge Sipra also directed the police to arrest and produce the PTI leaders before the court by October 20.

"The three leaders did not appear in court even once," remarked the judge as the court rejected Ayub's request for exemption from appearance.



The case relates to the former ruling party's rally in Islamabad's Sangjani in September last year seeking the release of its incarcerated founder Imran Khan who has been behind bars since August 5, 2023 in multiple cases ranging from terrorism to corruption.

The latest arrest warrants are likely to add to the party's existing legal and political woes with its senior leadership, including Khan, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Yasmin Rashid and others already incarcerated.

The party has also lost its opposition leaders in the NA and the Senate after the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) disqualified Ayub and Shibli Faraz as the leaders of the opposition in both houses, respectively after the two were convicted in May 9 cases.—RT/Agency

France In Chaos As Prime Minister Quits Just 14 Hours After Appointment

FRANCE: France's new Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu and his government resigned on Monday, hours after Lecornu announced his cabinet line-up, in a major deepening of France's political crisis that drove stocks and the euro sharply lower.

The swift, unexpected resignation came after allies and foes alike threatened to topple the new government, with Lecornu saying that meant he could not do his job.

Opposition parties immediately urged President Emmanuel Macron to resign, or call a snap parliamentary election, saying there was no other way out of the crisis.

Lecornu, who was Macron's fifth prime minister in two years, stayed in the job for only 27 days. His government lasted 14 hours,



making it the shortest-lived in modern French history at a time when parliament is deeply divided and the euro zone's second-largest economy is struggling to put its finances in order.

What's next? French politics has become increasingly unstable since Macron's re-election in 2022 for want of any party or grouping holding a parliamentary majority. Macron's

decision to call a snap parliamentary election last year deepened the crisis by producing an even more fragmented parliament.

The centrist president could now call new snap elections, resign or try to appoint yet another prime minister. In past months, Macron, whose mandate runs until May 2027, has repeatedly ruled out the first two options.

Pakistan, Malaysia Ink \$200 Million Halal Meat Pact To Deepen Trade Footprint

MALAYSIA: Pakistan and Malaysia on Monday reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing cooperation in trade, education, technology, and governance, as Kuala Lumpur announced plans to import \$200 million worth of halal meat from Pakistan.

The announcement was made during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's three-day official visit to Malaysia, where he held extensive discussions with his Malaysian counterpart Anwar Ibrahim on strengthening bilateral cooperation.

Speaking at a joint press



conference with his Malaysian counterpart, PM Shehbaz acknowledged Prime Minister Ibrahim's significant role in Malaysia's development, describing him as a leader of remarkable qualities. "Anwar Ibrahim's visit to Pakistan was a memorable one, and we had very positive discussions," Shehbaz added.

On bilateral trade, the prime minister welcomed Malaysia's decision to import halal meat worth \$200 million from Pakistan. "We will continue to expand halal meat trade with the passage of time," he said, expressing interest in joint ventures and collaboration to benefit from Malaysia's expertise.

"Our relations have strengthened over time, and I thank the people of Malaysia for their heartfelt welcome," said Prime Minister Shehbaz. "Malaysia is like a second home to us," he added.—RT/Agency

PPP's Rabbani Demands Full Disclosure On US Relations, Mineral Leases, And Pasni Port Deal

ISLAMABAD: Former Senate Chairperson Raza Rabbani has called on the federal government to "immediately" brief parliament on its evolving relationship with the United States — especially in light of reports concerning rare mineral sales and a possible offer to hand over Pasni Port to Washington.

In a strongly worded press release, Rabbani criticised the government for not taking either the people or parliament into confidence regarding "the dynamics of the new relationship with the United States." He added that foreign policy



should not be conducted in secrecy, especially when it affects national resources and sovereignty. Referring to a reported deal with the American company US Strategic Metals (USSM), Rabbani expressed concern that details of the sale of rare and precious minerals, including a recent sample shipment, were only revealed through the media.

"It is unfortunate that the provinces, who are real stakeholders under Article 172 of the Constitution, were not consulted," Rabbani said. He reminded the government that the provinces are 50% owners of mineral resources and must be included via the Council of Common Interests (CCI).

Rabbani also cited the widespread provincial opposition — particularly from Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa — to the federal government-sponsored minerals law, which has reignited debate over resource control and provincial autonomy.—RT/Agency

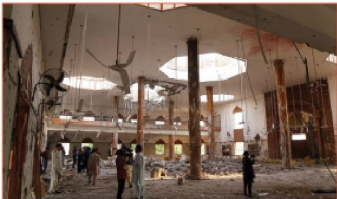
Immune Breakthrough Wins Nobel: Scientists Crack Body's Self-Defense Code

American scientists Mary Brunkow and Fred Ramsdell, alongside Japan's Shimon Sakaguchi, won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Medicine for discovering how the immune

system avoids attacking healthy cells. Their work on regulatory T cells unlocks new hope for autoimmune disease and cancer treatments. The prize, awarded by Swe-

den's Karolinska Institute, includes \$1.2 million and a gold medal. Sakaguchi called it "a tremendous honour" after the announcement outside his university lab.—RT/Agency

Ex-NSA Nasir Janjua Sounds Alarm — India May Strike Pakistan Again



Islamabad: Former National Security Adviser Lieutenant General (Retd) Nasir Janjua has warned that India could launch another attack on Pakistan. Speaking at a seminar, he said that India might carry out a missile strike, emphasizing the need for Pakistan to remain vigilant.

Janjua stated that Pakistan possesses the most advanced technology, and India is well aware that any aggression would be met with a strong and effective response. He noted that after the recent

conflicts, Pakistan and its armed forces have gained greater respect globally, while India has become increasingly isolated on the international stage. Highlighting Pakistan's strategic strength, Janjua said the country stands as the only Islamic nuclear power in the Muslim world — a fact that continues to unsettle its adversaries.

He urged for preparedness and unity to counter any potential threat from India.—RT/Agency

Indian Troops Unleash Horror At Thar Border — 62 Goats Crippled, 8 Slain In Heinous Attack

By Muhammad Bachal

THARPARKAR: In a heart-wrenching incident near the Pakistan-India border, Indian forces allegedly mutilated 62 goats in Sonrani village of Dahli taluka, Tharparkar. According to local sources, the goats had inadvertently crossed the border while grazing when Indian troops cruelly severed their legs. Eight goats died on the spot due to excessive bleeding, while 43 others sustained severe injuries and were later sold in Umerkot due to the villagers' inability to care for them. The Livestock Department's Tharparkar team pro-



vided emergency treatment to 11 goats, with a slim chance of survival. This brutal act has left poor villagers devastated, wiping out their entire livestock and source of livelihood. Fear and panic now grip the village, with calls for justice and government intervention echoing across the region.—RT/Agency

Saudi Arabia Opens Umrah To All Visa Holders In Monumental Religious Tourism Reform



In a landmark decision, Saudi Arabia has announced that all visitors and residents holding any type of visa—including tourist, work, transit, personal, and family visit visas—are now eligible to perform Umrah during their stay in the Kingdom. The Ministry of Haj and Umrah confirmed the announcement on Sunday, calling it a significant step toward simplifying Umrah procedures and expanding accessibility for Muslims worldwide. The initiative is part of Saudi Vision 2030, aimed at modernizing the country and boosting religious tourism. "This step reflects the Kingdom's ongoing

commitment to facilitating the arrival of Muslims from around the world to perform their rituals with ease and tranquility," the ministry said in a statement released by the Saudi Press Agency. This policy shift is expected to benefit millions, including Muslims from countries like Pakistan, which receives one of the largest Haj quotas from Saudi Arabia. The move complements recent administrative reforms, including Pakistan's approval of the Haj Policy 2026 in July, streamlining key procedural and financial aspects of the pilgrimage.—RT/Agency

Pakistan, Ethiopia Forge Stronger Defence And Aviation Partnership

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on Monday agreed to enhance cooperation in defence and aviation as part of efforts to deepen their bilateral relations.

The understanding was reached during a meeting between Ethiopia's Special Envoy and Ambassador Extraordinary, Dr. Jemal Beker Abdulla, and Federal Minister for Defence, Khawaja Muhammad Asif, held on Monday in Islamabad.

Dr. Jemal Beker Abdulla briefed the Minister about the recent inauguration of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), emphasizing that it was built on the principle of equitable and reasonable water utilization, fostering



regional integration without causing significant harm to other countries.

The Ambassador also highlighted Ethiopia's significant advancements in the aviation sector and expressed a keen interest in expanding flight destinations to Pakistan, beyond the existing Karachi route.

Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, lauded the visionary leadership of Ethiopia, commending the transformative initiatives undertaken by Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed to advance socio-economic development and prosperity in the country.—RT/Agency

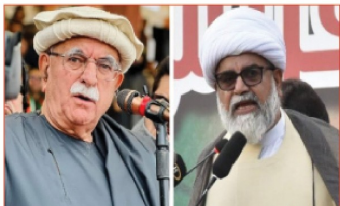
PTI Picks Achakzai As National Assembly Opposition Leader, Nasir Abbas For Senate Slot

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has finalised Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) Chief Mahmood Khan Achakzai as Leader of Opposition in the National Assembly and Majlis Wahdat-e-Muslimeen (MWM) Head Senator Alama Raja Nasir Abbas for the same role in the Senate, sources privy to the matter said on Monday.

The two names were finalised during a meeting of the PTI's parliamentary committee.

PTI MNAs have acceded to the appointment of Achakzai as the opposition leader in the lower house, while Senators have endorsed Abbas's name for the same role in the upper house, sources said.

Following the agreement, the opposition will submit their names to the NA and



Senate Secretariat, respectively, tomorrow (Tuesday).

PTI was forced to name new opposition leaders in both houses after Omar Ayub, Leader of Opposition

in NA, and Shibli Faraz, opposition leader in the Senate, were notified from the top parliamentary positions on August 9, following their convictions in the May 9 cases.

Several PTI leaders, in-

cluding Ayub, Faraz, and Zartaj Gul, were sentenced to 10 years in prison each on July 31, in connection with a case registered in the aftermath of the May 9, 2023.

Meanwhile, PTI Secretary General Salman Akram Raja said that party founder and former prime minister Imran Khan endorsed Achakzai and Abbas for the top parliamentary positions.—RT/Agency