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Asif Warns: Afghan Hostility Nearing Breaking Point Amid Escalating Terror Attacks



SIALKOT: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has warned that Pakistan's relations with Afghanistan are deteriorating, cautioning that the current environment could lead to further strain in bilateral ties, something Pakistan does not wish for.Speaking to the media, the minister said that relations with Afghanistan had never been ideal, adding that terrorism was being exported from Afghan soil into Pakistan.

"Pakistan wanted relations of respect and dignity, just like good neighbours," he said, urging Afghanistan to cooperate in addressing cross-border terrorism.Islamabad and Kabul are witnessing heightened tensions amid interim government's reluctance to act against terrorist groups, operating from Afghan soil, in the backdrop of rising terror attacks in Pakistan.The country has witnessed a surge in cross-border terror incidents since Taliban rulers returned to Afghanistan in 2021, particularly in the bordering provinces of KP and Balochistan.—RT/Agency

Six Brave Cops Martyred as Five India-Backed Militants Killed in DI Khan Training Centre Siege



KP: Six policemen, including trainees, were martyred and five Indian-sponsored terrorists were killed after militants launched an attack on the police training school in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's (KP) Dera Ismail Khan district late night, the military's media wing said in a statement on Saturday.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the terrorists on the night between October 10-11 attempted to storm the training facility by breaching its perimeter security.

"On [the] night between October 10-11, 2025, in a cowardly terrorist attack, Khwarij belonging to Indian proxy Fitna al-Khwarij targeted Police Training School in Dera Ismail Khan District," the ISPR press release read."The assailants attempted to breach the perimeter security; however, their nefarious designs were swiftly foiled by the vigilant and resolute response of law enforcement agencies' personnel deployed on duty, in their deperation, the attackers rammed an explosive-laden vehicle into the gate," it added.—RT/Agency

Finance Minister Aurangzeb Jets Off to Washington for Crucial IMF and World Bank Talks



ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has departed for Washington to attend the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Aurangzeb will represent Pakistan in crucial IMF and WB plenary sessions.

During his visit, Finance Minister Aurangzeb will hold meetings with the IMF World Bank, IFC top officials. He will also hold meeting with the WB President Ajay Banga and attend a dinner hosted by him for global finance ministers.

He will also hold a meeting with the IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva.The minister is scheduled to meet his counterparts from China, Britain, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Azerbaijan.—RT/Agency

Political Drama Peaks: KP Governor Stalls Gandapur's Resignation Approval After Confirmation



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi has confirmed receiving the resignation of Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, but has withheld immediate approval pending legal review.

The resignation, hand-delivered by CM's aide Brig (r) Musaddiq Abbasi to the Governor House, was submitted at 2:20 PM and dated October 11. It was officially received and acknowledged.

Speaking to media, Governor Kundi stated that the hand-written resignation will undergo legal scrutiny before any formal action. He also noted that legal advisers are currently unavailable over the weekend, and consultations are scheduled for Monday to evaluate constitutional implications and next steps.In case the resignation is not accepted, PTI has activated an alternate legal and political strategy.—RT/Agency

Tarar, US Envoy in High-Level Talks to Deepen Strategic Ties



ISLAMABAD: United States Chargé d'Affaires, Natalie A. Baker, met with Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar, on Saturday to discuss matters of mutual interest, including strengthening bilateral relations and exploring new opportunities for collaboration, particularly in the digital media sector.

During the meeting, Pakistan's frontline role in the fight against terrorism was appreciated, while US Chargé d'Affaires Natalie A. Baker noted that the country's economy is moving toward stability and growth.

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting affirmed that Pakistan remains at the forefront of the global fight against terrorism, with its sacrifices serving the cause of international peace and stability.

He further emphasized that the government has implemented a robust and comprehensive policy aimed at combating fake news and advancing digitalization. He called for greater visibility and recognition of these efforts to ensure their continued success and public engagement.

Tarar highlighted Pakistan's abundant natural beauty, vibrant cultural diversity, and rich historical heritage, describing them as key assets for tourism development.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Army Crushes Afghan Aggression After Unprovoked Cross-Border Fire



ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Army launched a strong retaliatory response after Afghan forces opened unprovoked fire at multiple locations along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, security sources said on Saturday.

According to official reports, Afghan forces initiated indiscriminate firing at several border points, including Angoor Adda, Bajaur, and Kurram, while smaller border actions were also reported in Dir, Chitral, and Barancha. The incidents triggered a swift and powerful response from Pakistan's border security posts, which had been on high alert.

Sources confirmed that the Pakistan Army engaged the attacking positions with precision, destroying several Afghan posts and inflicting heavy casualties on Afghan troops and militants associated with Fitna Al-Khawarij. Following the counterattack, Taliban fighters reportedly abandoned multiple posts and left behind several bodies before retreating.

The confrontation marks one of the most serious border escalations in recent months, raising tensions between the two neighboring countries. Pakistan's security officials said the country's forces responded "decisively and proportionately," emphasizing that any violation of its territorial integrity would meet with a firm military reaction.

Notably, the border aggression coincided with Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi's visit to India — a timing that Pakistani officials described as "notable and concerning." The sources suggested that the attacks appeared coordinated and deliberate, undermining recent efforts to stabilize cross-border relations and ensure peace in the region.

Pakistan has repeatedly urged Afghanistan's interim authorities to prevent cross-border terrorism and ensure that its territory is not used for militant activities against Pakistan. Officials reaffirmed Islamabad's commitment to maintaining peace but stressed that provocations along the border would not be tolerated.

The situation remains tense, with both sides reportedly reinforcing security along key border regions. Pakistani forces continue to maintain heightened vigilance to prevent further violations of the country's sovereignty.—RT/Agency

US Unveils New Qatar Air Force Base in Idaho to Boost Military Cooperation



WASHINGTON: US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth announced that Qatar will be allowed to build an air force facility at Mountain Home Air Base in Idaho that will house F-15 Fighter jets and pilots.The announcement comes soon after President Donald Trump signed an executive order vowing to defend the Gulf Arab state against attacks, following Israeli air strikes targeting Hamas leaders in the Qatari capital Doha."We're signing a letter of acceptance to build a Qatari Emiri Air Force facility at the Mountain Home Air Base in Idaho," Hegseth said at the Pentagon, with Qatari Defense Minister Sheikh Saoud bin Abdulrahman Al-Thanni at his side."The location will host a contingent of Qatari F-15s and pilots to enhance our combined training" as well as "increase lethality, interoperability," he said.

"It's just another example of our partnership. And I hope you know, your excellency, that you can count on us."The Idaho base currently also hosts a fighter jet squadron from Singapore, according to its website.Hegseth also thanked Qatar for its "substantial role" as a mediator in the talks that led to a truce and hostage-prisoner swap deal between Israel and Hamas, and its assistance in securing the release of a US citizen from Afghanistan.—RT/Agency

Dar, Egyptian FM Huddle Over Gaza Crisis Ahead of Sharm el-Sheikh Summit



ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar held a telephonic conversation with Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr. Badr Abdelatty on Saturday to discuss the evolving situation in the Middle East, with a particular focus on Gaza and Palestine. According to the Foreign Office, both leaders reviewed regional diplomatic efforts aimed at achieving peace and stability in the region. They also exchanged views on enhancing coordination ahead of the upcoming Summit scheduled in Sharm el-Sheikh on Monday. Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's support for the Palestinian cause and stressed the importance of international unity in addressing the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Both sides agreed to continue close engagement on regional and global developments.—RT/Agency

US Threatens Sanctions on Countries Resisting Global Carbon Tax

WASHINGTON: The United States threatened to impose sanctions and take other punitive action against any country that votes in favor of a carbon tax on maritime transportation to be implemented through a UN agency."We will fight hard to protect our economic interests by imposing costs on countries if they support" the Net Zero Framework, said a joint statement by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and his counterparts at the departments of energy and transportation.—RT/Agency



REGIONAL TIMES
THE HEARTLAND



Commissioner Fayaz Hussain Abbasi Visits GCU Hyderabad, Reviews Campus Progress

By Muqeem Keerio



HYDERABAD: Commissioner Hyderabad, Fayaz Hussain Abbasi, visited Government College University Hyderabad to observe computer-based pre-admission tests for undergraduate programs. He lauded the university's transparent and efficient testing arrangements. Welcomed by Vice Chancellor Dr. Amjad Ali Arain, the Commissioner was presented with Ajrak as per Sindhi tradition. He emphasized the importance of merit-based admissions for quality education. Later, he inaugurated the Inter-University Table Tennis (Boys) Zone-K Championship 2025-26, encouraging student participation in sports for holistic development and inter-university collaboration.

HESCO Cracks Down Hard on Power Thieves, Recovers Over Rs 664 Million

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: HESCO has launched a major operation against electricity theft and bill defaulters across various sub-divisions. Since January 19, 2025, over 27,977 illegal connections have been disconnected, 685 individuals arrested, and Rs 664.7 million recovered. Recent actions in Qasimabad, Phuleli, Hala, and other areas led to disconnection of hundreds of illegal connections and recovery of millions in dues. HESCO CEO Faizullah Dahri vowed to eliminate power theft completely. Citizens are urged to pay bills promptly or face disconnection and legal consequences.

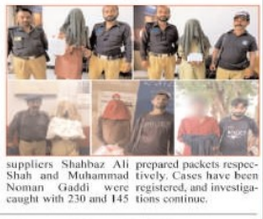
Four Suspected Robbers Gunned Down in Jamshoro Shootout; Five FIRs Filed

By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: Four alleged armed robbers were killed in a police encounter near the Jamshoro Toll Plaza, close to Ishaq Khoso village. The deceased were identified via fingerprint records as Ali Haider, Mehtab, Abdul Rehman, and Noman. B-Section Police registered five FIRs, one for the encounter and four for illegal weapon possession. Police recovered a rifle, three TT pistols, and a snatched car. The bodies were sent to Civil Hospital Hyderabad for postmortem and remain unclaimed. The operation was led by SHO Sajjad Jamali and other officers after intelligence suggested the gang was fleeing Karachi following serious crimes. Police say the suspects opened fire first and were killed in retaliatory firing during a pursuit into nearby mountainous terrain.

Hyderabad Police Bust Drug and Liquor Network, Arrest Five Suspects

By Muqeem Keerio



HYDERABAD: Hyderabad Police arrested five suspects, including a proclaimed offender, during multiple operations across the city. At Hali Road, Imran Chandio was caught with 1.25 kg of hashish, and Faisal alias Ganji Pathan with 5 liters of homemade liquor. At Hosri, absconding suspect Arshad Panhwar was arrested. Meanwhile, mainpuri suppliers Shahbaz Ali Shah and Muhammad Noman Gaddi were caught with 230 and 145 prepared packets respectively. Cases have been registered, and investigations continue.

PPP Mirpurkhas Rallies Behind MNA Munawar Talpur, Slams False Allegations

By Farooq Randhawa



DIGRI: PPP Mirpurkhas Information Secretary Azam Khan Nohani has strongly condemned the false accusations made on social media against District President and MNA Nawabzada Mir Munawar Ali Khan Talpur. He stated that the entire district leadership, workers, and supporters fully trust Talpur. He criticized Ghulam Mustafa Mangrio for violating party policy and emphasized that internal matters must be resolved within party forums.

Thul Residents Reeling as Flour and Daily Essentials Prices Skyrocket

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: Residents are alarmed as prices of flour and daily essentials surged sharply, officials say. A 20-kg bag of flour that sold for Rs1,300 now costs Rs 2,100-2,200. Traders' profiteering and recent floods have driven up costs, hitting poor and working families hardest. Citizens accuse authorities of inaction and demand immediate price controls, strict action against profiteers, relief for vulnerable households, and ensure food subsidies.

High-Speed Crash in Lahore Leaves Young Driver Fighting for Life

By Aiaz Ali Jokhio

DAULATPUR: Near the Lagardia Oil Depot on National Highway in Daulatpur, a speeding car collided with a parked dumper loaded with gravel, leaving the car driver, Abid Umar (son of Umar Din Malik), a resident of Lahore, critically injured. Police reached the scene and shifted the victim to Daulatpur Hospital for first aid, later referring him to Nawabshah due to his serious condition. The accident occurred as the driver was returning from Karachi to Lahore.

Journalists Turn Kotdiji Fort into Stage of Protest Over Killings of Media Workers

By Naeem Ahmed Shaikh



KHAIRPUR: Concerned by the rising violence against journalists in Sindh, the Union of Journalists staged a symbolic protest in front of the historic Kotdiji Fort. Protesters decried brutal killings, torture, false cases, and harassment by government and feudal forces. They demanded justice, protection for media workers, and enforcement of press freedom laws. Union leaders pledged to continue peaceful demonstrations until journalist safety is ensured across the province.

Scooty Scandal Erupts as BISE Hyderabad Overlooks Top Students at Ceremony

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: A major controversy erupted at BISE Hyderabad as electric scooters were awarded to third and ninth-position holders, while top scorers Muhammad Ayan Khan (1st), Ayesha (2nd), and Ubeer Fatima (3rd) were not even invited. This blatant disregard for merit has sparked outrage among students and parents, raising serious questions about transparency and favoritism. Critics claim the board rewarded connections over achievement, undermining student morale. Citizens demand immediate action and reforms to restore trust in educational institutions and ensure that merit is always recognized and respected.

Tragedy in Khoski: Young Girl from Badin Loses Life in Car Crash

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: A car carrying members of the Memon community from Badin to attend an engagement ceremony overturned near Khoski, causing the tragic death of 4-year-old daughter of businessman Imtiaz Memon Pirwani. The vehicle skidded off the road and fell into a ditch. The girl's funeral was held at Shahnawaz Chowk, Badin, with large attendance from the community. She was laid to rest at Shah Qadri graveyard. Condolences continue to pour in for Imtiaz Memon and family.

Talhar's Ismaili Community Marks Prince Rahim Aga Khan's 54th Birthday with Joyful Music Night



TALHAR: The Ismaili community in Talhar organized a vibrant music program to celebrate the 54th birthday of their 50th Imam and spiritual leader, Prince Rahim Al-Husseini Aga Khan. Famous Sindhi singer Tufail Sanjrani and other artists performed, captivating the audience. A magic show was also held, delighting children. The event concluded with a special dinner arranged for the Ismaili community, marking a joyous and memorable celebration.—RT

Dadu Honors Poet Ustad Bukhari on 33rd Death Anniversary with Emotional Tribute Event



By Javed Laghari

DADU: The 33rd death anniversary of legendary Sindhi poet Ustad Bukhari was commemorated at Shaheed Benazir Park, organized by Ustad Bukhari Adabi Council. Writers, poets, artists, and citizens from across Sindh participated. Ustad's son Altaf Shah Bukhari and others highlighted his revolutionary poetry and love for Sindh. A musical night featuring artists like Manzoor Sakhirani paid tribute to his timeless verses. Dadu Press Club was awarded for outstanding coverage. Organizers pledged to host a cultural festival next year in Ustad's honor.

Education Official Ashiq Hussain Khoso Visits Berani School, Awards Top Student

By Hakim Ali Baloch



JAM NAWAZ ALI: Additional Secretary Education Sindh, Ashiq Hussain Khoso, made a surprise visit to Government Higher Secondary School Berani. He inspected classrooms, interacted with students, and appreciated the academic efforts of 9th-grade student Mumtaz Marri, awarding him Rs. 1000 for outstanding English performance. Khoso also reviewed the science and computer labs and praised Headmaster Soomar Khan Chakrani for maintaining high standards. He instructed DEOs and TEOs to visit schools regularly and address issues on a priority basis. Staff and officers were also introduced during the visit.

DHO Shaheed Benazirabad Inspects Sakrand Hospital, Orders Facility Improvements

By Zeeshan Soomro



SAKRAND: After taking charge of the district health department, DHO Shaheed Benazirabad Dr. Mudassir Hussain Domki visited Taluka Hospital Sakrand. He inspected various departments including Trauma Center, Laboratory, Free Pharma, X-Ray Room, and Male-Female Wards. Medical Superintendent Dr. Yousaf Magsi briefed him on hospital operations. Dr. Domki expressed satisfaction with the inspection, emphasized cleanliness, and directed timely medicine distribution. He appreciated the performance of the Gynecology and Surgical wards. During the visit, Dr. Magsi raised concerns about a faulty generator, and Dr. Domki assured prompt repair. Other officials present included Dr. AD Keerio, Dr. Mansoor Qureshi, Dr. Naseer Memon, Ali Hassan Inar, and Nazir Ahmed Lakho.

Mental Health Awareness Drive Held at Indus Hospital Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal



BADIN: On World Mental Health Day, an awareness session was held at DHQ Indus Hospital Badin, attended by doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff. Dr. Sikandar Ali Memon emphasized the importance of mental health. Experts highlighted rising mental illnesses due to drug use, unemployment, and social isolation. Speakers urged collective efforts from schools, religious leaders, and communities. The hospital administration pledged to continue such awareness initiatives regularly.

Daulatpur Protest Erupts Over Failure to Arrest Journalists' Killers

By Aijaz Jokhio



DAULATPUR: Journalists held a protest outside the Daur Press Club, led by Lala Musa Unar, Muhammad Ali Jokhio, and others demanding the arrest of those behind the murders of journalists Tufail Rind and Imtiaz Mir. Protesters said Sindh has become unsafe for journalists, with killers roaming free. They diately and ensure justice for the slain journalists. urged the government to arrest the culprits imme-

Shikarpur Journalists Take to Streets Demanding Arrest of Colleagues' Murderers

By Adeel Alvi



SHIKARPUR: The Shikarpur Union of Journalists held a protest rally at the Press Club demanding the immediate arrest of killers of journalists Imtiaz Mir and Tufail Rind. Leaders Zahid Mahmood Noon and Agha Israr Pathan condemned the authorities for delaying justice and accused them of labeling the murders as tribal disputes. The union warned of a sit-in house if action is not taken at the Chief Minister's promptly.

PPP Dadu Stages Massive Rally Against Use of Abusive Language

By Javed Laghari

DADU: Led by PPP District Information Secretary Mir Saddam Balhro, hundreds of party workers and leaders held a protest rally from the PPP district office to Dadu Press Club. They strongly condemned the use of abusive language against PPP leadership, including district president Barrister Pir Mujeeb-ul-Haq. Leaders warned non-political groups against illegal activities and blackmail attempts, pledging to protect party leadership, workers, and institutions. The rally was supported by various PPP subcommittees and local social leaders.

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NATIONAL



Naqvi Denounces DI Khan Terror Strike, Salutes Brave Martyred Officers



ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi condemned the terrorist attack on a police training center in Dera Ismail Khan and paid tribute to seven policemen who were martyred while repelling the assailants. He said the officers displayed exceptional bravery, thwarting the militants' plans. Naqvi noted that KP Police has made historic sacrifices in the fight against terrorism.—RT/Agency

Federal Govt to Equip FC with Advanced Training for Durable Peace in KP

PESHAWAR: The federal government has decided to provide modern training to the Federal Constabulary (FC) to ensure peace in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. During a meeting, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi announced that FC personnel would also receive training abroad. He said upgrading the FC into a top-tier force remains a key priority.—RT/Agency

Eggs are Nature's Nutrient Powerhouse and Perfect Gift of Health, Says Dr. Sajjad Arshad

FAISALABAD: Speaking at a seminar in Kuching, Malaysia, on the occasion of World Egg Day, Dr. Sajjad Arshad highlighted that a small egg is a treasure trove of nutrition and a symbol of health and happiness. He said the day, celebrated annually on the second Friday of October, reminds people of the egg's vital role in ensuring a balanced diet and a healthy lifestyle.

Dr. Sajjad described the egg as a natural gift rich in essential nutrients — packed with proteins, vitamins A, B, D, and E, along with calcium and iron — making it beneficial for all age groups. Eating one egg daily, he said, provides nine essential amino acids vital for muscle and mental health. He urged philanthropists in Pakistan to distribute free eggs and host communal cooking events to promote healthy eating.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Scores Major Breakthrough as Indigenous Herbs Set for Export to China: Najam Mazari

LAHORE: Head of the Institute for Organic Food and Products Research, Najam Mazari, has termed the export of indigenous herbs to China a significant breakthrough. He urged the government once again to formulate a comprehensive policy for large-scale exports of rare herbs, organic foods, and related products, along with establishing laboratories and providing certification support.

In his statement, Mazari said a Pakistani company recently secured confirmed export orders worth millions of dollars for organic meat from China and the UAE. He added that during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent visit to Malaysia, discussions were also held regarding meat exports worth $200 million — a highly encouraging development.—RT/Agency

Nation's Leadership Extends Condolences to Jawad Abid Over Mother's Passing

ISLAMABAD: National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and Deputy Speaker Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah have expressed deep sorrow over the death of the mother of Joint Secretary (Administration) and DG IT, Jawad Abid.

In his condolence message, Speaker Sadiq termed the loss irreparable, noting that a mother's absence leaves an unfillable void. He prayed for the departed soul's elevation in Jannah and patience for the bereaved family.

Deputy Speaker Shah also conveyed heartfelt sympathies, praying for eternal peace of the deceased. Senior officials, including Secretary Syed Tahir Hussain, Additional Secretary Saeed Ahmed Marfat, and DG (Media) Zafar Sultan, offered condolences, describing the loss as deeply felt within the National Assembly Secretariat. They prayed for forgiveness and solace for the grieving family.—RT/Agency

Dr. Nafisa Shah Urges Revival of Pakistan's Fading Silk Industry on Assembly Floor

By Naz Solangi



ISLAMABAD: PPP leader and MNA Dr. Nafisa Shah used Question Hour in the National Assembly to press the government on its heavy dependence on imported silk. She challenged the government's plan to bolster local production. Parliamentary Secretary for Commerce Zulfiqar Ali Bhatti replied that domestic output is minimal but that the government is considering investments and training programs to increase local silk production. Dr. Shah emphasized that expanding silk production in rural areas could create jobs, boost local economies, and conserve valuable foreign exchange.

PTI Activist Falak Javed Re-Arrested in Fresh Case



LAHORE: Police have formally arrested Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) social media activist Falak Javed in another case — this time on charges of attacking Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police personnel in Zaman Park.

The police officials on Saturday approached an anti-terrorism court in Lahore seeking the custody of Javed, who earlier in the day had been sent to jail on remand in two separate cases involving the alleged misuse of social media platforms against state institution and a provincial minister.—RT/Agency

Soaring Chicken, Onion, and Flour Prices Push Inflation to New Weekly Highs

ISLAMABAD: The weekly inflation rate rose again, driven by sharp increases in the prices of 21 essential items, particularly chicken, onions, and flour. According to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), the Sensitive Price Index (SPI) climbed 0.17% for the week ending October 9, reaching 332.75 points compared to 332.17 last week and 318.91 a year earlier — marking a 4.24% annual rise.

Chicken prices surged by 8.92%, onions by 7.47%, and flour by 5.74%, while eggs, ghee, and garlic also saw notable hikes. However, tomato prices fell 11.34%, offering slight relief alongside marginal declines in bananas and potatoes. Inflation eased by 0.14% for the lowest-income group, but rose up to 0.20% for higher brackets. PBS compiles SPI data from 50 markets across 17 major cities nationwide.—RT/Agency

Peshawar Police Foil Terror Strike on Mattani Station, Two Militants Neutralized

PESHAWAR: Security forces successfully foiled a terrorist attack on the Hassan Khel Police Station in the Mattani area of Peshawar on Saturday, killing two attackers and injuring two others.

Police sources confirmed that two terrorists were killed and two others wounded in the exchange of fire, while the remaining suspects managed to flee. A search operation is currently underway to track down the remaining assailants.

Additional police and security forces have been deployed to the area, while rescue teams have reached the scene. The situation is now under control, and security measures across the region have been further tightened. According to police officials, the attackers are believed to be linked to the banned TTP.

Peshawar Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Dr. Mian Saeed confirmed the incident, stating that a group of seven terrorists launched an attack on the police station. Police personnel, already on high alert, responded swiftly and effectively, engaging the attackers in a fierce gun battle.—RT/Agency.

Punjab Govt to Present Landmark Local Government Bill 2025 on Monday



LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to present the Local Government Bill 2025 in the Provincial Assembly on Monday, marking a major step toward introducing a new local governance system in the province. The bill has been placed on the session's agenda following its approval by the Punjab Assembly's Standing Committee on Local Government in August.

Committee Chairman Peer Ashraf Rasool confirmed that the proposed laws aims to restructure the local government framework, including fresh delimitations across Punjab, to be carried out with the assistance of the Election Commission.

A key amendment removes the controversial proposal to appoint deputy commissioners as chairpersons of district committees. Instead, elected public representatives will hold these positions, while deputy commissioners will serve as co-chairpersons. Government sources suggest local body elections may be held early next year.—RT/Agency

METRO KARACHI

AVLC Gulberg Unit Arrests On-Duty Cop Behind Motorcycle Theft Ring

By Fida Hussain Panhwar



KARACHI: In a major operation, AVLC Gulberg arrested on-duty police officer Waryam Khan of Gulshan Iqbal Police Station for involvement in motorcycle theft. CCTV footage shows him stealing bikes in two separate incidents. Authorities recovered stolen motorcycles, a 30-bore pistol, and a master key used to break locks. Khan, previously booked for illegal weapons, allegedly sold bikes to drug dealers. SSP AVLC declared, "Law applies equally to all." The suspect faces seven separate cases across police stations, and investigations continue.

PPP Leaders Launch Development Work in Chakra Goth After Meeting Local Community

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: A delegation of Gulshan Ahmed Ittehad Committee, representing residents of Street No-1 in Sindhi Basti, Chakra Goth, District Korangi, met with PPP Korangi President Jani Memon and UC Chairman Murtaza Memon. The delegation included Committee President Ehsan Khokhar, Vice President Ali Raza Maher, Joint Secretary Faryad, Treasurer Mukhtar Abbasi, Mansoor Khokhar, Ali Murtaza Khokhar, Shah Muhammad Mahar, and others. General Secretary Raja Sues, clean water lines were installed, drainage work began, and more development was promised, including paver blocks and street lights.

Central Punjab

Notorious Gangster Taifi Butt Shot Dead in Fierce Police Encounter

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar



GUJRANWALA: Khawaja Gulshan, alias Taifi Butt, the main accused in the high-profile Amir Balaj murder case, was killed in an alleged encounter with Punjab Police's Crime Control Department (CCD). Taifi Butt was being transferred from Dubai to Pakistan via Interpol and was attacked near Rahimyar Khan along with his associates during the transfer. He died in the ensuing encounter. Taifi Butt was extradited from Dubai after voluntarily agreeing to face charges in Pakistan. Amir Balaj Tipu, son of a prominent businessman Tipu Tarkwala, was shot dead at a wedding in February 2024. The case has seen multiple suspects killed in encounters, including Ahsan Shah in August 2024. A recent JIT report links Gogi Butt to the murder plot, with his removal sought in upcoming hearings.

Haji Pura Police Nab Six Dangerous Robbers from Two Ruthless Gangs

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar



GUJRANWALA: In a major breakthrough, Haji Pura Police Station arrested six notorious robbers linked to two active gangs during a special operation led by SHO Inspector Ghazi Abdul Razzaq under the supervision of DSP City Circle and directives from DPO Faisal Shahzad. The suspects, involved in multiple robberies involving cash, motorcycles, and mobile phones, were traced using city surveillance cameras. Police recovered stolen items worth Rs. 10 million and illegal weapons. Further investigations are underway. DPO Sialkot announced cash prizes and certificates for the police team.

DC Umer Abbas Flags Off Anti-Polio Drive in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: Newly appointed Deputy Commissioner Umer Abbas officially took charge and inaugurated the four-day anti-polio campaign at City Hospital. He administered polio drops to children, marking the start of the drive covering 433,838 children across the district. Over 2,000 teams, including mobile and fixed units, are involved. DC stressed strict monitoring and daily reporting to ensure polio eradication. He also inspected DHQ Hospital facilities, emphasizing quality healthcare.

DC Toba Tek Singh Reviews Offices to Boost Efficiency and Public Service

By Abid Mehmood Ch



TOBA TEK SINGH: Deputy Commissioner Umer Abbas conducted a thorough inspection of various branches in the DC Office, including Revenue, Administration, and Accounts. He reviewed attendance, cleanliness, and the handling of public applications, urging staff to ensure timely and efficient service. The DC also visited the "Suthra Punjab" Control Room, emphasizing the importance of prompt complaint resolution and improved daily reporting. He stressed that delays or negligence in public service would not be tolerated, aiming to enhance transparency and accountability in the district administration.

Twin Cities Paralyzed for Second Day as TLP Protest Brings Traffic Chaos

ISLAMABAD: Life in Islamabad and Rawalpindi remained crippled for the second consecutive day as Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan's (TLP) protest brought traffic and internet services to a standstill. Major roads including Faizabad Interchange, IJP Road, and Khanna Pul were sealed with containers, while the Red Zone and D-Chowk were completely blocked off. Educational institutions stayed closed, and Metro Bus service was suspended due to security concerns. The administration also banned heavy vehicle entry and imposed Section 144 across Punjab, prohibiting public gatherings. Authorities sealed restaurants and hotels near Faizabad, as internet outages and road closures caused major disruptions for residents and businesses.—RT/Agency

Punjab Cracks Down Hard with New Ordinance Imposing Tougher Drug Laws

LAHORE: The Punjab government enacted a major legal reform with the introduction of the Punjab Control of Narcotics Substances (Amendment) Ordinance 2025, bringing stricter penalties and bail restrictions in drug-related cases.

Under the new ordinance, suspects facing life imprisonment for narcotics offenses will no longer be eligible for bail. Courts are now required to assess the severity of the case and impose heavy sentences before considering any bail application.

Appeals against decisions made by special anti-narcotics courts will now be heard by a two-member bench of the Lahore High Court, appointed directly by the Chief Justice.

According to Punjab's Law Department, significant amendments have been made to Sections 38, 39, 40, 41, and 44.—RT/Agency

Terrorism Not Rooted in Any Single Party or Decision, Says Salman Akram Raja

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Salman Akram Raja has said that terrorism cannot be attributed to a single political party or decision. Speaking at a press conference in Peshawar, he stated that PTI stands firmly with the country's martyrs and acknowledged that terrorism's roots run deep. "Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has been bleeding for 40 years," he remarked, adding that terrorism is not the product of a single day. Raja emphasized that all Pakistanis want the nation's welfare and urged the authorities to listen to their voices. He criticized the violation of the Constitution and laws, noting that the province has yet to receive its share from the NFC award.—RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES
EDITORIAL

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

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Enough Is Enough: Pakistan Must Put Pro-India Kabul Regime in Its Place

Afghanistan's latest act of aggression — unprovoked firing across multiple border points including Angoor Adda, Bajaur, and Kurram — marks yet another reckless provocation by a regime that has repeatedly bitten the very hand that sheltered it for decades. The Taliban government, which Pakistan once supported through humanitarian aid and diplomatic engagement, has chosen instead to align itself with India's anti-Pakistan designs, allowing Afghan soil to become a launchpad for terrorism and subversion.Pakistan's response was both measured and decisive. The Pakistan Army retaliated with full force, destroying multiple Afghan posts and neutralizing dozens of attackers, including members of the so-called "Fitna Al-Khawarij." Yet this confrontation is more than a

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border skirmish — it exposes Kabul's calculated hostility, coinciding suspiciously with its foreign minister's visit to India. The message is clear: Afghanistan, under its current rulers, is neither grateful for Pakistan's decades of hospitality nor willing to curb the terrorists targeting this nuclear-armed nation.The world must wake up to the dangerous nexus between Kabul and New Delhi — a partnership that fuels cross-border militancy and destabilizes regional peace. Pakistan cannot and will not tolerate continued incursions, nor can it permit India-backed non-state actors to exploit Afghan soil against its sovereignty. Islamabad's patience has limits, and those limits have now been tested.For over forty years, Pakistan has hosted millions of Afghans with generosity unmatched in the modern world. But hospitality cannot be mistaken for weakness. The time has come for Pakistan to adopt a zero-tolerance policy — diplomatically, militarily, and strategically — toward any government that threatens its internal security. Afghanistan must be made to understand that Pakistan's restraint is not submission, and its strength must never again be underestimated.

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THE HEARTLAND





LARKANA: Additional Secretary Education Abdul Hannan Shaikh and DEO Primary Anis Rehman Jalbani are presenting the Best Head Teacher award to PST Ms. Najia Ameen Baghio during a ceremony organized in Larkana.--Photo by Ahmed Raza Soomro

Larkana Hosts 'Salute to Teachers' Ceremony to Celebrate Inspiring Educators

By Saleem Soomro



LARKANA: District Education Officer Primary Anis Rehman Jalbani organized a grand "Salute to Teachers" ceremony at Begum Nusrat Bhutto Hall, Jinnah Park on World Teachers' Day, where more than 320 male and female teachers, headmasters, and educational officials attended. Special guests included Director HR Kashmor Kumar, Additional Secretary Abdul Hannan Shaikh, Director Primary Khalil Ahmed Mahar, DEO Secondary Abdul Rasheed Chandio, Deputy Director Suraya Andleeb, Assistant Education Officer Shehnaz Zeenat, and former Director Gulshar Soomro. The event began with a recitation from the Quran, followed by the national anthem and cultural tableaus by students. Teachers were honored with awards recognizing their exemplary performance in academics and community engagement.

JUI-F Draws Thousands at 16th Annual Ishq-e-Rasool Conference in Larkana



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam (F) district Larkana held its 16th annual Ishq-e-Rasool (Love of the Holy Prophet) conference at Jamia Islamia on Dodai Road. The gathering included eminent scholars such as Maulana Mufti Abdul Wahid Qureshi, Maulana Rashid Khalid Mehmood Soomro, and Maulana Nasir Khalid Mehmood Soomro. Speakers urged following the Prophet's exemplary life and staunchly defended the doctrine of Khatm-e-Nubuwwat (finality of Prophethood), denouncing attempts to weaken it. The conference also expressed solidarity with Palestinians, rejecting international ceasefire proposals and demanding an end to Israeli aggression against Palestine.

Teen Dies as Under-Construction Madrasa Wall Collapses in Tando Allahyar

By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: A tragic incident occurred in Peer Colony where a wall of an under-construction madrasa collapsed on a 16-year-old boy, Usama son of Shoukat Arain, resulting in his death on the spot. The body was shifted to Civil Hospital for necessary legal formalities before being handed over to the family. The heartbreaking incident triggered mourning and sorrow in the boy's household and the surrounding neighborhood.

Jacobabad Traders Demand Justice, Seek Crackdown on Fraud Accused



By Muhammad Ali Surhio

JACOBABAD: A peaceful sit-in was held by jewellers and traders at Sarafa Bazaar, urging authorities to arrest Muhammad Umar Memon, accused of defrauding local jewellers of millions. Led by Sarafa Bazaar President Samiullah Surhio and other community leaders, participants expressed concern over delayed action and rising public grievances. They appealed to SSP Jacobabad to take prompt and fair steps. The protest remained calm, with citizens hoping for justice and improved law and order. A wider strike was hinted if demands remain unaddressed.

Shams Keerio, Thakur Rajveer Singh Discuss Sindh's Enduring Legacy of Harmony



By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: Social and intellectual figure Shams Keerio, after a meeting with Special Assistant to the Chief Minister Sindh on Human Rights, Thakur Rajveer Singh Sodho, said Sindh continues to embrace diversity as a source of strength and sees differences as beauty. He described Thakur Rajveer as a modern bearer of historical harmony, with the meeting reflecting deep cultural ties, human values, and a vision of inclusive leadership rooted in service and accountability.

DC Tando Allahyar Kicks Off Anti-Polio Drive, Warns of Action Against Refusals



By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: Deputy Commissioner Noor Mustafa Leghari launched the five-day national polio campaign by administering drops to children at Civil Hospital. He directed full implementation of the micro plan, warning that parents refusing vaccination may face CNIC, SIM, and passport suspensions. SSP Syed Saleem Shah assured police support. The campaign begins on October 13, targeting all under-five children. An awareness rally was also held to mobilize public support for eradicating the dangerous polio virus.



LARKANA: Students are presenting a tableau during a prize distribution ceremony organized by the Education Department.--Photo by Ahmed Raza Soomro

Teachers in Kandiaro Protest Against Transfers, Demand Fair Treatment

By Usama Ayaz Abbasi



KANDIARO: Under the leadership of PTA leader Aziz Ahmed Abbasi, teachers of Government Elementary School Qurban Ali Tanwri staged a powerful protest against alleged illegal and unfair transfers. Dozens of teachers and local leaders condemned the education department's policies, demanding immediate cancellation of these transfers. A female teacher was transferred to a crime-ridden area 60 km from the city, risking her safety. Protesters called for her immediate reassignment to a secure and accessible location to protect her life and dignity.

TLP Rallies in Tando Allahyar Against Crackdown on Pro-Palestine Supporters

By Afaque Khanzada

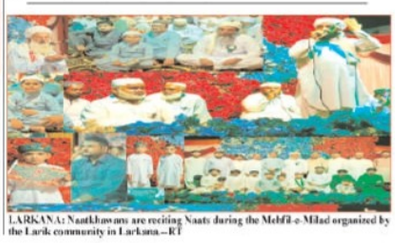


TANDO ALLAHYAR: A large number of men and women affiliated with Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) held a peaceful protest outside the Press Club in Tando Allahyar, led by Ashraf Mughal, Jibran Shah, and Arshad Saifi. Carrying placards, the protesters chanted slogans condemning the federal and Punjab governments for allegedly using force against those demonstrating in solidarity with Palestine. The group also staged a brief sit-in before dispersing peacefully. Protesters called for an end to state repression of pro-Palestine voices.

Neglect Turns Fatal as Young Man Dies of Black Jaundice Near Jati

By AS Thahim

JATI: A young resident of village Yousuf Khaskheli near Jati died after battling black jaundice for months. According to his brother, Younus Khaskheli, they could not afford proper treatment due to poverty. The youth was taken to Taluka Hospital Jati in critical condition, where he passed away. The body was handed over to the family after formalities.



LARKANA: Naatkhawans are reciting Naats during the Mehfil-e-Milad organized by the Larik community in Larkana.--RT

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS



Tuchel Hails England's World Cup Squad for Its Grit and Class



England manager Thomas Tuchel expressed that he wants to select players who have exceptional quality and character, taking a step-by-step approach to build the team for the upcoming FIFA World Cup.

Tuchel stressed that the doors are open for players, and the selection will be based on merit.

Tuchel's squad for the matches against Wales and Latvia largely mirrored the team that secured wins over Andorra and Serbia in September, despite notable absences.

Key players Jude Bellingham and Phil Foden were omitted, while captain Harry Kane, Reece James, and Nemi Maducke were sidelined due to injury.

Nevertheless, England's seamless performance, securing their eighth consecutive home win over Wales, highlighted the squad's depth and readiness.

Speaking to the British media, Tuchel stressed that he focuses on the players in the camp as they have earned their place, adding that the door is open for other players if they have top quality and character.

"At the moment, it is only about the players who are in camp," Tuchel said.—Agency

Seattle Mariners Stun Detroit Tigers to Secure ALCS Berth

SEATTLE: Seattle Mariners edged Detroit Tigers with a 3-2 victory in the Major League Baseball (MLB) Game 5 of the American League Division Series (ALCS) here at T-Mobile Park on Friday, thanks to Jorge Polanco's walk-off single in the bottom of the 15th inning.

Following the victory, the Mariners will play the Toronto Blue Jays in their first AL Championship Series since 2001.

Reflecting on his team's high-stakes victory, Polanco remarked that his team has the potential to fight in any circumstance, adding that they never gave up and today was his day.

"We never give up. We just keep fighting. It doesn't matter how many innings we play," Polanco said.

"We just stay ready and wait for the moment. It's going to come. It was my time."

After Randy Arozarena was struck by a pitch, Crawford singled to start the inning and advanced to third on a throwing error. Polanco finished it with a 3-2 line shot into right field off Tommy Kahnle following a deliberate walk to Julio Rodriguez.

Luis Castillo pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings to get the victory.—Agency

Chisora Predicts Explosive Knockouts Ahead of Usyk, Itauma Showdowns



Derek Chisora has made a knockout prediction for Oleksandr Usyk vs Moses Itauma fight.

Itauma has emerged as a brutal force in recent times, holding an unbeaten record of 13-0, with 11 of his victories coming by knockout.

The 20-year-old possesses a sensational skill set and has been compared to greats like Mike Tyson from a very early age.

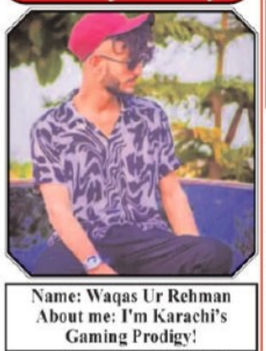
However, Chisora, who has fought Usyk and was beaten by the Ukrainian with the scores of 117-112, 115-113, 115-113, has expressed his thoughts on the fight between Itauma and the world heavyweight champion.

Speaking to The Sun Sport, 'Del Boy' said that the young British boxing sensation should not step in with Usyk in a bout.

"You know what, he shouldn't take the fight with Usyk. Don't believe the hype of if you win it you'll be amazing, no, we're building something great here, so if we're building something great we should not try to cash cow and say we want him to do this now," Chisora said.

He added that we should let Itauma learn the game and should not rush him against Usyk.—Agency

Face of the Day



Name: Waqas Ur Rehman

About me: I'm Karachi's Gaming Prodigy!

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

Medvedev Destroys De Minaur to Storm into Shanghai Masters Semis



Daniil Medvedev eased past world number seven Alex de Minaur 6-4, 6-4 on Friday to secure the last place in the Shanghai Masters semi-finals and a date with unseeded Frenchman Arthur Rinderknech.

Rinderknech claimed the scalp of yet another seed in Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime, 6-3, 6-4, to join his cousin Valentin Vacherot and four-time Shanghai champion Novak Djokovic in the last four.

Medvedev, a former world number one who has slipped down the rankings to 18th, said he was "super happy to beat such a tough player like Alex".

"It's been a tough year for me so to make the semis here is great," the Russian added.

Medvedev broke in the fifth game and then managed to hold despite a wobbly 10th in which he had to save a breakpoint and committed three double-faults.

De Minaur had his moments but the Australian looked somewhat flat, failing to capitalise when opportunities presented themselves.

A series of errors in the ninth game handed the second set to Medvedev, who finished with an ace and no further drama.

Rinderknech, ranked 54 at the beginning of the tournament, has had a dream run in Shanghai, including beating world number three Alexander Zverev.

The 30-year-old's success has been matched by his cousin, Monaco's Vacherot, who booked his place in the last four on Thursday by eliminating Denmark's Holger Rune.

Rinderknech made easy work of 13th-ranked Auger-Aliassime, breaking in the sixth game with a down-the-line winner.—Agency

Masood Sees South Africa Clash as Defining WTC Test for Pakistan



LAHORE: Pakistan captain Shan Masood on Saturday termed taking on reigning champions South Africa in their ICC World Test Championship (WTC) 2025-27 campaign opener a massive opportunity, stating it would uplift the team's confidence.

The Green Shirts had a forgetful campaign during the previous WTC cycle as they finished at the bottom in the nine-team competition, managing just five victories in 14 matches, while South Africa went on to dethrone then-champions Australia to lift the prestigious mace.

After the WTC 2023-25, Pakistan eye another shot at the mace, but their campaign starts with a stiff challenge – a two-match home assignment against the defending champions, starting Sunday.

Addressing the pre-match press conference here at the Gaddafi Stadium, the Pakistan captain was questioned about how the home side will bridge the gap with reigning champions.

In response, Masood stressed that the upcoming series against South Africa is a vital opportunity for resurgent Pakistan and drawing good results against them would uplift their confidence for the remainder of the WTC cycle.

"Look, it is a very good opportunity for us, we are starting our campaign against a winning team. So, it would be a measuring stick for us," stated Masood.

"South Africa are the champions, so playing against them and by the will of Almighty Allah drawing good results against them would lift our confidence. So, there cannot be a better opportunity than this for the Pakistan team," he added.

Notably, Pakistan have been relying on spin-friendly pitches at home since their come-from-behind victory over England last year, and the upcoming series in Lahore and Rawalpindi is likely to be played in similar conditions, and their captain Masood backed the strategy by arguing that taking 20 wickets in a game, rather than piling up mammoth totals, will be key to producing results.

"If both teams score 600 runs on a flat wicket, we will not benefit from it," Masood stated. "Sometimes you sacrifice runs to create situations where 20 wickets are possible." The Pakistan captain then addressed concerns regarding the availability of right-arm spinner Sajid Khan, who has been suffering from viral fever, stating that they will make the final call on his selection after consulting with the doctors.—Agency

Mbappe Blow: Star Forward Sidelined for France's Iceland Qualifier



France captain Kylian Mbappe has been ruled out of Monday's FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifier against Iceland after sustaining a right ankle injury in a 3-0 victory over Azerbaijan, the French Football Federation (FFF) said on Saturday.

After scoring one goal and providing an assist, the 26-year-old forward suffered the injury in the 85th minute of the match against Azerbaijan.

Mbappe's strike against Azerbaijan was his 53rd in 93 outings for his nation, as he nears Olivier Giroud's record of 57 goals.

Additionally, it was Mbappe's tenth straight goal for club and country, bringing his season total to 17.

Mbappe has 14 goals in 10 games for Real Madrid this season.

According to media reports, after undergoing tests, Mbappe's injury is not serious.

In an official statement, the FFF stated that Mbappe has spoken to Didier Deschamps, who confirmed that the captain has been released to join Real Madrid and will not be replaced.

"Upon the French delegation's return to Clairefontaine, the French team captain spoke with Didier Deschamps," FFF said in a statement.

"The national coach has confirmed his absence. Kylian Mbappé has been released to his club and will not be replaced."

It is pertinent to mention that Madrid's attacking midfielder Franco Mastantuono has also withdrawn from the Argentina national team after sustaining a muscle strain in training.

Mastantuono, the 18-year-old, suffered a strained injury during Madrid's win against Villarreal on October 4.

The World Cup 2026 qualifying process is off to a brilliant start for France as they sit at the top of Group D with nine points from three games.—Agency

Felix Agu Recovering After Successful Syndesmosis Surgery



Nigeria midfielder Felix Agu underwent successful surgery on Wednesday to treat a syndesmosis ligament injury, which he sustained last week during Werder Bremen's 1-0 victory over St Pauli.

The 26-year-old, Agu, was included in the Nigeria squad for the last round of the FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifiers against Lesotho and Benin. With his quality, he was likely to start at left-back ahead of Bruno Onyemaechi, but the injury ruled him out of contention.

According to a recent report, the injury will keep him out of action for several months, which means he is likely to miss the Africa Cup of Nations 2025.

However, Agu's exact return date remains uncertain, as Werder Bremen has not confirmed how long he will be sidelined. However, typically, this type of injury takes three to six months to fully recover.

Before his setback, Agu formalised his international switch after being cleared by FIFA, following two appearances for Germany's U21 team in 2019.

He made his Super Eagles debut during the Unity Cup in London, playing 83 minutes in the final as Nigeria drew 2-2 with Jamaica before winning on penalties.

Agu's career highlights include winning the 2. Liga title with VfL Osnabrueck, making his Bundesliga debut for Werder Bremen, scoring his first league goal and providing his first assist, and earning two under-21 caps for Germany.

He is also remembered for his performance in Werder Bremen's 4-0 win over M'gladbach, where he made a crucial defensive contribution. It is also important to note that Agu has a history of injury setbacks, so the club will not want to rush his recovery.—Agency

Coco Gauff Blazes Past Paolini to Reach Wuhan Open Final



WUHAN: French Open champion Coco Gauff secured a straight-set 6-4, 6-3 victory over Italy's Jasmine Paolini here at the Center Court on Saturday to qualify for the Wuhan Open final.

The American third seed dominated the opener, and both players held serve for the first five games, following five straight breaks.

Gauff broke Paolini's serve and took a 3-2 lead in the second set, and continued with the same pace that she left in the second set.

It was the 11th consecutive game in which a service hold was unsuccessful.

Gauff then broke Paolini again, ended the match on her own serve, and maintained service for the first time in the set to take a 4-3 lead.

She will now compete on Sunday against either World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka or fellow American Jessica Pegula.

Wuhan Open final is Gauff's fifth career WTA 1000 final and her third of 2025.

Reflecting on her triumph, Gauff expressed satisfaction with her performance, while describing the match and dealing with Paolini's serve as tough.

"I'm really happy with how I played today. It was tough, especially playing on the serve. But I did what I needed to do to get through," Gauff said.

She also hailed her potential opponents, Sabalenka and Fegula, who have defeated the American. Gauff, however, stressed that she is solely focused on her side of the court and will vie to control things which she can.

"Sabalenka and Fegula are great players... And I've lost to them both before. But overall, I'm just going to focus on my side of the court and try to control the things I can control."—Agency

ENTERTAINMENT



Jennifer Garner Glows in Love, 'Happier Than Ever' with John Miller



Jennifer Garner is reportedly ready to take the next step in her relationship with longtime partner John Miller.

According to RadarOnline.com, the actress has found "real love" with the businessman and is eager to spend the rest of her life with him.

A source revealed, "Jennifer's been making plans for the wedding without much fanfare, and she's the happiest she's been in a long time."

The insider also explained that Garner sees Miller as her true life partner, saying, "She's been telling people that John is the person she was meant to be with."

Meanwhile, friends have encouraged the 13 Going on 30 star to give herself a break ahead of her big day.

Known for her selflessness, Garner's dedication to both her family and philanthropy has reportedly left her running on empty.

Elaborating on her charitable nature, the insider said Jennifer has a "kind" heart that drives her to help others. However, it also added to her exhaustion.

"She has nothing to prove," they noted, pointing out that the mother of Ben Affleck's three kids is "one of the most hands-on moms in Hollywood. She doesn't even have an army of domestic helpers."

Kate Winslet Opens Up on Challenges of Her Directorial Debut



Kate Winslet has made her directorial debut with Goodbye June as she opens up about her views on it.

The Titanic star, in an interview with Empire magazine, says the movie is about siblings and their relationship with their sick mother, June.

"It was very important not to set her (June) up as the perfect, cozy parent," she adds.

The star continues, "When you're dealing with love, sometimes tragedy, uncomfortable, humorous things can happen."

"So, it was important to be as real about that side of what's happening to June as possible," the Academy-winning star adds.

Elsewhere in the interview, Kate reveals she was "scared" of directing, but she recalled to rein in her nerves. "I just decided - **** it, I'm gonna do this!" "I had thought to myself, 'How do I answer that question?'" she continues. "I think I've often said, 'I've been raising a family, I've got other things going on'"

Taylor Swift's 'The Life of a Showgirl' Sparks Buzz Over Blake Lively Friendship



Taylor Swift's latest album, The Life of a Showgirl, has seemingly shaken Blake Live to the core.

An insider told RadarOnline.com that Lively believes many songs on the 35-year-old American singer-songwriter's new album are taking a dig at her, which she considers a "most brutal" snub.

For those unaware, Swift's twelfth studio album, The Life of a Showgirl, has a song with the title Ruin the Friendship and the source stated that the track is aimed at the bond both stars once had that has now been fractured beyond repair.

An insider close to both luminaries revealed, "Blake is devastated – this isn't something she can easily move past. She really loved Taylor and never thought their friendship would fall apart like this."

"Hearing those songs has hit her hard, and seeing people online convinced they're about her just makes it even more painful," the source noted.

Notably, this bitter break in their friendship came after the Gossip Girl star tried to use Swift's influence in order to make changes in her legal battle with Justin Baldoni.

Lively is embroiled in a legal battle with Baldoni after she accused him of harassment on the set of their 2024 film It Ends with Us and starting a smear campaign against her.

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FBR Rakes In Record Rs 2.02 Billion from Wedding Tax Windfall



ISLAMABAD: Despite being a poor country, Pakistanis have big hands on expenditures on marriages as the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has revealed that its cut of withholding tax on expenditures on marriages went up by 19 percent in the financial year 2024-2025.According to the FBR, it earned a whopping amount of Rs 2.02 billion from receiving withholding tax on marriages expenditures in the last financial year.A substantial increase in taxes is the result of the FBR strict overseeing while it also disclosed that spending on marriages have gotten uptick in the country.Under the FBR strict radar, the tax collection is being done from marriages halls, banquets, marquees and hotels across the country.—RT

Panic in Layyah as 5.0 Magnitude Quake Shakes Punjab Heartland



PUNJAB: A magnitude 5 earthquake struck close to Punjab's Layyah on Saturday night, according to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD).The PMD said the quake occurred 50 kilometres east of Layyah at 7:54pm at a depth of 20km.Pakistan falls on three major tectonic plates — the Arabian, Euro-Asian and Indian — which create five seismic zones under the country. The intersection of multiple fault lines means that tectonic movements remain a frequent occurrence in the region.—RT

Toxic Air Killing 256,000 Pakistanis a Year, Experts Sound Alarm



ISLAMABAD: A national conference on clean air in Pakistan called for actionable solutions, stronger policies, and regional cooperation to combat rising air pollution. Sessions focused on governance, financing clean air, smog control, industrial responsibility, judicial activism, and public health impacts. During a session on the health crisis amid smog, WHO Representative Dr. Dapeng Luo said clean air is a basic human right, noting that 256,000 Pakistanis die annually due to air pollution. "Air pollution does not distinguish between social classes — no one is safe until everyone is safe," he warned. Dr. Saima Saeed of Indus Hospital added that 60% of patients with respiratory symptoms suffer from asthma, emphasizing the urgent need to tackle Pakistan's worsening air quality.—RT

Confusion Looms: Will Lahore and Islamabad Schools Stay Open Monday?

LAHORE: Uncertain situation is prevailing regarding whether educational institutions will open or not owing to security fears and a protest by a religious party in Punjab. Citizens, students and parents are concerned due to the protest of the religious party and closure of the main highways and whether schools in Lahore, Rawalpindi and Islamabad would open on October 13. Monday. A day ago, the provincial government had announced closure of the educational institutions in advance owing to the security fears amid the long march in Islamabad by the Tehreek-e-Labaik Pakistan (TLP). The Private Schools Association had also announced a holiday on Saturday in the affected areas.—RT

Punjab Moves to Shield Students, Orders Anti-Harassment Committees in All Schools

LAHORE: The Punjab government has directed all public schools to form "Anti-Harassment Committees" within 30 days to address harassment issues in educational institutions. According to a notification by the School Education Department (SED), the move follows Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's order issued on the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child. The initiative aims to ensure a safer learning environment and promote accountability across Punjab's public education system.—RT

Highway Heroes: Sindh Police Strike Back with 'S4' Tech, Bust Crime Ring



By Munwar Chandio

HYDERABAD: In a bold move to regain public trust, Sindh Highway Patrolling Police has launched a tech-driven crackdown using the Sindh Smart Surveillance System (S4). Backed by DIG Asmar Farooq and SSP Atta Muhammad Nizamani, officers recovered six stolen vehicles and made multiple arrests. The use of S4's modern cameras enabled quick tracking and drag seizures. Civil society praised the success and urged action against gutka, smuggled goods, and narcotics plaguing Sindh's highways. Public confidence is on the rise.

Witness Testimonies Wrap Up in Explosive Mehar Triple Murder Case Tied to PPP MPAs



DADU: The trial court on Saturday completed the recording of witness statements in the 2018 Mehar triple murder case, in which two Sindh Assembly MPAs, Sardar Ahmed Chandio and Burhan Chandio, are among eight accused. Defence witnesses, including MNA Ghulam Rasool Chandio, testified before the 1st Additional Sessions Judge in Dadu. The court adjourned the hearing until October 25. The case was filed by Umme Rubab Chandio, whose father Mukhtiar Chandio, grandfather Karamullah Chandio, and uncle Qabil Chandio were shot dead on January 17, 2018, within Faridabad police station limits. All nominated accused have pleaded not guilty to the charges.—RT

DIG Hyderabad Orders High-Level Inquiry Into Torture of Daulat Ram Bagri

By GM Chandio



HYDERABAD: DIG Hyderabad Tariq Razzaq Dharejo has constituted a high-level inquiry board to investigate the brutal torture of laborer Daulat Ram Bagri in Jamshoro. The move follows public outrage and allegations that local police deliberately protected the accused powerful individuals including Pappu Barfat and Niyazo Barfat due to caste and religious bias. The board, headed by SSP Hyderabad Adeel Chandio, is tasked with conducting an impartial review and ensuring transparent justice for the minority Bheel community victim.

PPP Jhudo Leaders Decry Media Trial Targeting Mir Munawar Talpur

By Shahid Majeed

JHUDO: Mir Irfan Talpur, President of PPP Jhudo, and General Secretary Humayun Akhtar Qaimkhani strongly condemned the media trial against Mir Munawar Talpur. They praised Mir Munawar Talpur as a source of pride and honor for the party, highlighting his dedication to national integrity, public service, and party discipline. They criticized recent conspiratorial statements by Ghulam Mustafa Mangrio, calling them signs of intolerance and conspiracy. The leaders vowed not to tolerate any plot against Mir Munawar Talpur or the party leadership.

QAT Chief Accuses Sindh Govt of Harboring Illegal Afghans, Warns of Demographic Plot

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: QAT President Ayaz Latif Palijo launched a ferocious critique of the Sindh government, accusing it of concocting "pretexts" to protect illegal Afghans while other provinces repatriate them. He called this a deliberate conspiracy to diminish the Sindhi population to a minority. Palijo demanded immediate repatriation, rejected excuses of "kinship," and warned the PPP against choosing power over security. He also decried land transfers under "Green Pakistan," alleged exploitation of Sindhi resources, and urged student activism and resistance to "anti-Sindh" policies.

Hope Behind Bars: Badin Police Inspire Prisoners Toward a New Beginning



BADIN: In a rare gesture of compassion, the Badin Police organized a one-day seminar inside District Jail Badin for the reformation and moral uplift of prisoners on the directives of SSP Qamar Raza Jaskani. Addressing the inmates, DSP Pir Shabir Hander urged them to embrace repentance, faith, and personal reform, reminding them that "Allah loves the repentant." He called imprisonment not just a punishment but an opportunity for renewal and learning. The session encouraged inmates to acquire skills and rebuild their lives. Radio host Yunus Bakani also uplifted spirits with motivational dialogues.—RT

EXCELLENCE IS A STANDARD NOT A GOAL

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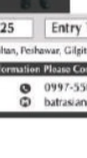
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Last Date to Apply: 10 Nov, 2025

Entry Test Date: Sunday 16 Nov, 2025

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For Further Information Please Contact

Pakistan Scouts Cadet College Batrasi P.O Attershisha Mansehra | 0997-550281, 550203 | 0997-550283 | batrasian@hotmail.com

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DIVISION SUJAWAL
On By Pass Mallah Chowk Via Badin Road Petrol Pump Mallah Opposite Al Khayaban-E-Qasmi Sujawal Road

No: TC/PHE/528 /2025, SUJAWAL. Dated 09/10/2025

E-Mail: xenpheduajawal@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Sealed tenders are hereby invited under **Single Stage Two Envelopes Procedure** bidding process from all the contractor / firms who are registered with Pakistan Engineering Council in the relevant field and appropriate category, in accordance with SPPRA rules 2010 (Amended 2017)

S.	Description	Estimated Cost Rs. In Millions	Earnest Money 5% in Million	Fee Tender	Completion Time
PROVINCIAL ADP SCHEMES 2025-26					
01	Construction of Rural Water Supply Scheme Village Abdul Sattar Shah & Thuro Gurmani (SDGs) ADP #3641 Ref# 12	63.673	3.184	5000	24 Months
02	Construction of Rural Water Supply Scheme Village Jar (SDGs) ADP #3641 Ref # 13	63.694	3.185	5000	24 Months
03	Construction of Sewerage i/c Paver Block to Banna City and Surroundings (SDGs) AIP # 3641 Ref# 60	49.039	2.452	5000	24 Months
04	Construction of Sewerage i/c Paver Block to Jhoke Sharif, Kumaro, DKS, and Other UCs of Bathoro (SDGs) ADP #3641 Ref # 61	50.099	2.505	5000	24 Months

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS: -

1. The blank tender forms can be obtained from office of the undersigned situated at by Pass Road Mallah Chock Via Badin Road Petrol Pump Mallah opposite at Khayban-E-Qasmi Sujawal Road Public Health Engineering Division Sujawal on any working day during office hoars from the date of publication upto **5:00 PM of 28-10-2025** on payment of prescribed tender fee (Non-refundable) in shape of pay order in favour of Executive Engineer Public Health Engineering Division Sujawal.
2. The Tender comprising of Technical Proposal and financial proposals must be submitted in separate sealed envelopes with clear marking of "TECHNICAL PROPOSAL" & "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL" & will be received back on **29-10-2025 up to 09.00 A.M.** Technical Proposal of the participating firms will be opened on the same date i.e., **29-10-2025 at 10.00 A.M.** by the tender opening committee in presence of participating contractors/firms of their authorized representative.
3. The TECHNICAL PROPOSALS shall be evaluated for technical qualification of the firm. Financial bids/proposal of the technically qualified firms shall be opened and publicly announced on the date and time that will be communicated in writing to all qualified contractors/firms in advance. Financial bid/proposal of technically un-qualified contractors shall be returned to them un-opened.
4. Tender shall be carefully & neatly filled and signed by the bidders. Each bid must accompany the Earnest Money as mentioned above in shape of **Call Deposit** in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division Sujawal on account of (**Name of Firm**) should be attached with technical Bid. Incomplete tender overwriting or conditional tender shall not be entertained.

DATE OF RECEIPT AND TIME 2ND ATTEMPT

the next date for issuing tenders will be **13-11-2025** upto **09:00 AM** and the bids shall be received back on same date upto **10:00 AM** and opened on same date i.e **13-11-2025 at 11:00 PM** under same terms & conditions.

(ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA)

a) Valid Pakistan Engineering Council Certificate in appropriate Category C-05 C-04, C-09, C-10 and Valid Electric License for the Year 2025.
b) Registration with Income Tax Department (NTN Copy), Sindh Revenue Board and copy of CNIC of owners / proprietors.
c) Bank Statement along with turn over at least five years which is required in terms of SPP Rule.
d) The instructions to bidders, bidding date, conditions of contract date mentioned in SRB is applicable.
e) Affidavit regarding not indulged in litigations and abandoned works, the firm is not black listed by any procurement agency and the given information, documents and data is absolutely true and correct.
f) List of completed works at least (03 Nos) in the last three years of Water & Sewerage jobs with documentary evidence along with satisfactory completion certificate of work from employer and details of ongoing works water & Sewerage jobs with copies of letter of award of works (last three years).
g) Details of Machinery and Equipment available as mentioned as per Clause 4.2 (j) of SPPRa Regulation for works criteria at 4 (g) of execution of work with documentary evidence.
h) Qualification and experience of technical personnel & key the site management staff as per of SPPRA Regulation for works criteria at 4 (h).
i) In case undesirable circumstance on sub mission opening date and time or if Government declares Holiday the tender shall be submitted /opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
j) The procurement agency reserves the right to reject any or all tenders subject to provision of SPPRA rules 2010.
k) Evaluation Criteria, Sub Criteria for the evaluation of full Technical Proposal is has "YES/NO" if bidder fails to obtain YES in any Criteria than He/It shall not be qualify.
l) Bid validity period is 90 days.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER/DEVO
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING
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INF/KRY/3209/25 WORK FOR SINDH www.workforsindh.com JOB PORTAL BY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

METRO KARACHI

Royal Saudi Delegation Lands in Pakistan to Supercharge Billion-Dollar Trade Ties



KARACHI: The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) hosted a high-level Saudi business delegation led by His Royal Highness Prince Mansour bin Mohammad bin Saad Al Saud. Starting in Islamabad on October 7, the delegation held key meetings with senior officials and business leaders, spotlighting trade, investment, and joint ventures. In Karachi, from October 9–10, they met Sindh's leadership, KCCI, FPCCI, and IFC, exploring collaboration in minerals, energy, construction, and NEOM-style infrastructure. A forum with OICCI and industry leaders capped the visit. The delegation now heads to Lahore, continuing a strategic mission to supercharge Pak-Saudi economic cooperation and long-term investment.—RT/Agency

KCCI and Saudi Delegation Eye Naphtha Cracker Project, Explore Deep Industrial Collaboration

KARACHI: A Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) delegation led by Chairman Businessmen Group Zubair Motiwala held productive talks with His Excellency Prince Mansour bin Mohammed Al Saud, Chairman of the Saudi-Pakistan Joint Business Council, to enhance bilateral trade and investment.

Discussions focused on downstream industrialization, petrochemicals, agriculture, textiles, IT, and academia. KCCI emphasized Pakistan's urgent need for a naphtha cracker facility to reduce polymer imports, create jobs, and boost industrial growth. Saudi delegates showed interest in evaluating investment opportunities in energy, industrial projects, and technology partnerships.

Zubair Motiwala termed the meeting a major step toward turning goodwill into tangible projects that can strengthen Pakistan's manufacturing base.—RT

PTI Slams PPP for Neglecting Sindh's Resource-Rich Districts, Alleging Massive Royalty Misuse



KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Sindh President Haleem Adil Sheikh has accused the Pakistan Peoples Party (FPP) of failing to develop Sindh's resource-rich districts despite 17 years in power. He said areas like Ghotki, Sanghar, Khairpur, Jamshoro, Badin, and Tando Allahyar produce billions in oil and gas revenues daily, yet royalties remain unspent, leaving locals deprived of basic facilities and jobs.

Speaking at Add House alongside PTI Vice President Mian Muhammad Aslam, Haleem alleged large-scale corruption in gas royalty funds by PPP leaders and deputy commissioners. Aslam noted that Ghotki alone contributes Rs500 billion annually to the economy but faces severe pollution, unemployment, and lack of clean water. He condemned the filing of false cases against protesting youth demanding rights, accusing FPP of exploiting Sindh's resources while ignoring its people.—RT/Agency

SSUET Chancellor Pays Glowing Homage to National Hero Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan

KARACHI: To mark the death anniversary of Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, Chancellor of Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology (SSUET), Muhammad Akbar Ali Khan, paid rich tribute to the legendary scientist and national hero for his outstanding services to Pakistan.

He said Dr. Qadeer's groundbreaking contributions in science and technology made Pakistan a strong nuclear power and reflected his lifelong devotion to national security. The Chancellor also acknowledged Dr. Qadeer's valuable role as a Member of the SSUET Board of Governors, where his expertise and vision greatly improved educational policies and strengthened the academic environment.

Akbar Ali Khan urged the younger generation to follow Dr. Qadeer's example of dedication and excellence in serving the nation with passion and integrity.—RT/Agency

Tragedy Strikes as Pedestrian Killed in Hit-and-Run Near Malir Model Colony

KARACHI: A man lost his life in a hit-and-run accident near Malir Model Colony Check Post late night. According to police, an unidentified vehicle struck a pedestrian walking along the roadside, killing him instantly.

Rescue teams and police arrived shortly after the incident and shifted the body to Jinnah Hospital, where the deceased was identified as Muhammad Ashraf. The driver fled the scene, and police have launched an investigation to trace the vehicle and apprehend the culprit.

Authorities noted that such fatal road accidents remain disressingly common across Pakistan, often caused by speeding, poor road conditions, and reckless driving. Officials have urged motorists to exercise caution and follow traffic rules to prevent further loss of life on the city's busy roads.—RT/Agency

Karachi Braces for Another Week of Scorching Heat and Relentless Humidity

KARACHI: As Karachiites prepare for the week ahead, weather forecasts suggest that the city will continue to experience typical coastal heat and humidity over the next three days, despite cooler conditions approaching.

According to AccuWeather, temperatures are expected to hover between 33°C and 35°C, with humidity levels remaining high, creating a warm and sticky atmosphere across the metropolis. Meteorologists note that while early mornings and late evenings may bring mild relief, daytime conditions will remain uncomfortable due to moisture-laden sea breezes.

Residents are advised to stay hydrated and avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight during peak hours. The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has indicated that the current spell of hot and humid weather is likely to continue before cooler winds arrive later this month.—RT/Agency

Karachi Court Sentences Robbery Convict to 14 Years in Jail

KARACHI: An Additional District and Sessions Judge (East) sentenced accused Ubaid to 14 years in prison for robbery and possession of illegal weapons. The prosecution stated that Ubaid and his accomplice robbed a citizen at gunpoint in December 2023 before police arrested him at the scene. The court ruled that Ubaid failed to prove his innocence, while evidence confirmed his involvement. His accomplice, Nawaz Sharif, remains at large.—RT/Agency

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia Join Hands to Strengthen Youth Cooperation in Sports and IT

KARACHI: Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have agreed to expand opportunities for youth in sports and information technology. The MoUs were signed in Karachi in the presence of Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori and Prince Mansour bin Mohammed Al Saud. Tessori said education, technology, and sports are key to a bright future, adding that a Pakistan-Saudi cricket match will be organized soon. Prince Mansour praised the governor's hospitality and initiatives.—RT/Agency

Karachi Introduces Mobile Licensing Vans to Ease Learners' Permit Process

KARACHI: The Driving License Branch has launched two mobile vans to issue learner driving licenses across Karachi. According to the announced schedule, the vans will visit key areas including Jehar Chorangi, Sindh High Court, SITE Association, and Clifton Cantt Board between October 13 and 18. The official learner license fee is Rs215 for motorcycles and Rs315 for combined car and bike licenses.—RT/Agency

Karachi Policeman Caught Stealing Motorcycle, Arrested by Fellow Officers

KARACHI: Gulberg Police arrested a serving policeman involved in motorcycle theft, recovering stolen bikes and illegal weapons. The suspect was identified through CCTV footage from incidents in the Yousaf Plaza area. Reports indicate he previously faced charges in an illegal arms case and sold stolen motorcycles to drug dealers. He has been booked in seven cases across different police stations.—RT/Agency

12,000 Surveillance Cameras to Transform Karachi's Traffic Monitoring System

KARACHI: DIG Traffic Peer Muhammad Shah announced that 12,000 surveillance cameras will be installed across Karachi to improve traffic management. He said a mobile app will also be launched to facilitate citizens. Heavy fines will target large vehicles, while awareness campaigns will educate small vehicle drivers. He added that encroachments remain a major cause of traffic congestion.—RT/Agency

Sindh Govt Announces Advance Salaries and Pensions for Hindu Employees Ahead of Diwali

KARACHI: The Sindh government has announced advance payment of salaries and pensions to Hindu employees ahead of Diwali. According to a notification, payments due on November 1 will now be made by October 15. The government also declared a public holiday on October 20 for Diwali, applicable to both public and private institutions.—RT/Agency

FIA Nabs NAB-Declared Fugitive During Operation at Karachi Airport



KARACHI: FIA Immigration arrested a fugitive wanted by NAB for 13 years at Karachi Airport. The accused, Kamran Ahmed Khan, arrived from Uganda using a fake Maltese passport and residence card. He was wanted in a 2010 NAB reference and had fled to the UAE. Preliminary investigation revealed he obtained the fake documents for $6,000 through an agent.—RT/Agency

Missing Teen Girl Recovered in Karachi, Kidnap Suspect Taken into Custody



KARACHI: Police have recovered a 17-year-old girl allegedly abducted from SITE. A week ago and arrested the suspect. According to police, the matric student went missing on October 4 while leaving for school. A case was later filed against suspect Hyderabad. Acting on leads, police recovered the girl, Javeria, and arrested the accused. Further investigation is underway.—RT/Agency



KARACHI: Dr Mirza Iktiar Baig Member National Assembly of Pakistan is inaugurating the 3 day Pakistan Lifestyle Furniture Expo at the Expo Center Karachi along with Zahra Faisal MD and Mian Faisal Mohsin CEO of the Lifestyle Group.—RT

Sharjeel Memon Unveils Sindh's Green Revolution: 500 Electric Buses, Expressway & Eco Mega Projects



KARACHI: Sindh Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon announced a major green transport overhaul, with 500 electric buses to launch in Karachi and Hyderabad. The People's Green Transport Project includes smart fare systems, charging stations, and bus depots. A 16.5-km expressway from Karachi Port to Quyyumabad was also approved to ease freight traffic. Plans for riverine forests on 41,000 hectares aim to fight pollution. With new agriculture-tech initiatives and major public-private projects, Sindh is accelerating towards eco-friendly growth, urban development, and economic modernization.—RT

20,000 Students' Vision Restored: PEBS and Rotary Club Achieve Milestone Eye Screening Project



KARACHI: n a remarkable healthcare milestone, the Pakistan Eye Bank Society (PEBS), in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Heidelberg Schloss, Germany, successfully completed eye screenings of 20,000 students under its School Eye Clinic Project. A special ceremony marking the achievement was attended by Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, PEBS President Qazi Sajid Ali, MPA Abdul Waseem, Ex-FST Chairman and former Sindh Minister Justice (Rtd) Qazi Khalid Ali, and other dignitaries. The initiative aims to combat preventable vision problems among children and promote eye health awareness in schools across Karachi.—RT

Nasir Shah Offers Heartfelt Condolences to Safdar Solangi on Bereavement

By Asif Qureshi



KARACHI: Sindh Local Government Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah and PPP Sukkur's former divisional president Pir Syed Bachal Shah met with Personal Staff Officer Safdar Solangi in Karachi to express condolences on the passing of his paternal aunt. They offered prayers for the departed soul and patience for the bereaved family. The leaders said they share the grief of Safdar Solangi and his family. Abdul Saboor Solangi and Abdul Salam Solangi thanked the distinguished guests for their visit.

NICVD Rolls Out Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan for Employees and Their Families



KARACHI: The National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) has introduced a Comprehensive Medical Health Insurance Policy for its employees and their families, covering spouses, children, and parents. The initiative ensures access to nationwide healthcare facilities, including hospitalization, surgeries, and emergency care.

Executive Director Professor Tahir Saghir said the policy reflects NICVD's commitment to employee welfare and recognizes their vital role in delivering free, world-class cardiac care. He thanked the Sindh government for its continued support in strengthening NICVD's mission.—RT

Ali Hassan Zardari Pins Promotion Badges on Jail Staff at Special Recognition Ceremony

By Hyder Shah



KARACHI: Provincial Minister from PS-76, Haji Ali Hassan Zardari, reinstated the long-delayed promotions of officers and staff of the Jail Department. In a special ceremony held at Karachi Central Jail, he personally pinned promotion badges on 76 officers and personnel. Inspector General of Prisons, Fida Hussain Mastoi, and other senior officials were also present at the event, which marked a moment of appreciation and recognition for the department's service.—RT

Newly Hired Maid Caught Orchestrating Major Robbery at Employer's Nazimabad Home

KARACHI: A woman hired as a housemaid in Nazimabad allegedly plotted a robbery at her employer's home, escaping with cash and jewellery worth hundreds of thousands of rupees. The victim, Farah, a crockery trader's wife, shared the ordeal on ARY Digital's Good Morning Pakistan. She revealed that she had hired the maid, Jameela, just a day before the theft.—RT

REGIONAL TIMES

MONEY

Gold Prices Jump by Rs2,100 per Tola Following Global Market Rally



KARACHI: Gold prices in Pakistan witnessed an upward trend on Saturday, following gains in the international market. According to the All-Pakistan Gems and Jewellers Sarafa Association (APGJSA), the price of gold per tola rose by Rs2,100, reaching Rs422,700 in the local market. Similarly, the price of 10 grams of gold increased by Rs1,800, settling at Rs362,397.

A day earlier, gold prices had dropped by Rs4,578 per tola, closing at Rs420,600. However, the global market recorded an increase today, with the international price of gold reaching $4,016 per ounce (including a $20 premium), marking a gain of $21.—Agency

It is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves.

—William Shakespeare

The REGIONAL TIMES

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READERS

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 2025

Saudi-Pakistan Business Council Eyes Multi-Billion Investments in Punjab's Key Sectors



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has said that Saudi investment would open a new era of progress in the province, welcoming the delegation of the Saudi-Pakistan Business Council led by Prince Mansour bin Mohammed Al Saud. She noted that the Custodian of Two Holy Mosques was taking Pakistan-Saudi relations to a new dimension and that mutual cooperation was entering a promising phase. Speaking at a ceremony held in honour of the visiting Saudi delegation, the chief minister said Pakistan's people had greatly appreciated the recent defence cooperation agreement between the two nations. "The delegation's arrival marks good fortune for Punjab," she remarked, adding that her government was focused on modern reforms and offering extensive investment opportunities across multiple sectors. Maryam Nawaz emphasised that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia shared a bond of brotherhood and unity. Recalling her meeting with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, she said it was inspiring to hear him speak about progress and innovation. —RT/Agency

KP Assembly Gears Up to Elect New Chief Minister on October 13



PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly has been summoned to meet on October 13 to elect a new chief minister, following the confirmation of Ali Amin Gandapur's resignation from the post. Governor Faisal Karim Kundi announced on Saturday that Gandapur's handwritten resignation was officially received and acknowledged at 2:20 p.m.

KPA Speaker Babar Saleem Swati shared the schedule for Monday's session on his X account, confirming that the election for the next chief minister will be held that day. Earlier, Gandapur had announced his resignation, while PTI General Secretary Sultan Akram Raja stated that party founder Imran Khan had nominated Sohail Afridi as his successor. However, confusion arose when Gandapur's resignation letter, shared with the media earlier, was not initially received by the Governor's House.—RT

Pakistan Urges Global Rule of Law to End Brutal Occupations in Palestine and Kashmir



NEW YORK: With the rule of law gaining greater relevance as the world grapples with increasingly complex challenges, Pakistan has called for applying this rule in cases of Palestine and Kashmir to bring an end to the decades-long occupation in those territories.

In this regard, Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, regretted flagrant violations of international law and established international norms on part of some countries.

"Peace and security are under threat from military provocations, aggressive designs and illegal actions, including holding in abeyance of international treaties hitherto regarded sacrosanct," he told UN General Assembly's Legal Committee.

"We are seeing the disturbing rise of territorial aggrandizement and unilateralism," the Pakistani envoy said during a debate on 'The Rule of Law at the National and International Level'.

Highlighting the oppressive occupation of Palestine and Kashmir, he said that an end to impunity and decades-long occupations must begin with true adherence to international law — warning that without accountability, peace remains elusive. In May this year, Ambassador Asim Ahmad drew attention to India's aggression against Pakistan, calling the unprovoked attack "a grave breach of international law" that violated itsovereignty. "Pakistan's decisive, yet proportionate, incisive and befitting response was in exercise of the right of self-defence, in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter," resulting in downing of several Indian aircraft and inflicting damage on those Indian military bases and targets that were involved in aggressive acts.

"India attempted to establish a 'new normal'. Pakistan's response ensured that the only normal is the respect for international law and sovereignty of states, in line with the UN Charter.—RT/Agency

Defiant Beijing Shrugs Off Trump's Tariff Threats: "China Isn't Afraid"



CHINA: Residents of China's capital city expressed indifference and defiance on Saturday when asked by AFP about the latest threat by US President Donald Trump to impose blistering new tariffs on the country.

Trump announced suddenly that the United States would slap additional 100% tariffs on all Chinese imports from November 1 "or sooner", also calling into question an upcoming meeting with President Xi Jinping.

Chinese authorities have yet to publicly respond on the threat, which Trump said was in retaliation for Beijing's new export control measures in the strategic rare-earth sector.

The ministries of foreign affairs and commerce did not comment when asked about it by AFP on Saturday.

"I felt nothing when I first saw the news," said Liu Ming, a 48-year-old employee in a software company, outside a large Beijing shopping mall. "Trump always has these childlike or capricious policies," said Liu. "China isn't afraid of any US sanctions or policies aimed at limiting us. We have the confidence and ability to do better ourselves."—RT/Agency

Imran, Bushra Record Statements in Explosive Toshakhana-II Case



RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi their statements in Toshakhana-II case under Section 242 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) before a special court. Bushra Bibi stated that she retained the Bulgari jewellery set after making payment in accordance with the Toshakhana rules. She said she never asked Inamullah Shah for undervaluation of the Bulgari jewellery set. Declaring herself a non-political housewife, she said she was being targeted solely due to her association with Imran Khan. She further stated that the High Court had mentioned in its order that the FIA (Federal Investigation Agency) had no authority to pursue this case. —RT/Agency

Modi Govt Slammed After Afghan FM Bars Women Journalists from Press Briefing



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Indian government faced intense backlash after women journalists were barred from attending Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi's press conference in New Delhi, Indian media reported.

Muttaqi is on a six-day visit after getting a temporary exemption on his travel ban by UN Security Council (UNSC) Committee. It was the first such trip to India by a Afghan Taliban leader since 2021.

India, a day earlier, upgraded ties with Afghanistan's Taliban administration, giving a boost to the diplomatically isolated group, by announcing it would reopen its embassy in Kabul that was shut after the Taliban seized power in 2021.

During the visit, the visiting foreign minister held a press conference at the Afghanistan embassy in Delhi, wherein the women journalists were stopped by the security staff and Delhi Police officials from attending the event despite multiple requests. Opposition parties condemned the Modi administration for its silence over the exclusion of women reporters from the high-profile event, calling it an "insult to every Indian woman".Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said women have the right to equal participation in every field, adding that the incident sends a message that Modi is "too weak to stand up for their rights." "Mr Modi, when you allow the exclusion of women journalists from a public forum, you are telling every woman in India that you are too weak to stand up for them," he wrote on X.—RT/Agency

Political Heat Soars as PTI Throws Weight Behind Sohail Afridi for KP CM Slot



PESHAWAR: In a significant late-night meeting, the leadership of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) expressed full confidence in Sohail Afridi as their nominee for the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Following the unanimous decision, a session of the provincial assembly has been called for today. According to sources, the extraordinary meeting took place at the Speaker's House and was attended by PTI General Secretary Sultan Akram Raja, former National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser, KPK Assembly Speaker Babar Saleem Swati, provincial president Junaid Akbar, and a large number of party lawmakers. Sohail Afridi also participated in the meeting, where the party leadership and assembly members officially named him as their candidate for chief minister. During the meeting, it was also decided to follow the constitutional and parliamentary procedures for electing the new CM. Sources further revealed that due to constitutional complexities surrounding Ali Amin Gandapur's resignation, a fresh handwritten resignation letter has been prepared and will be sent to the Governor.—RT/Agency

Trump's Arab-American Allies Cheer Gaza Deal but Doubt Its Durability



US: Lifelong Democrat Samra's Laqman became a vocal backer of Donald Trump in 2024, helping to rally support for him among the pivotal Arab American community in Dearborn, Michigan, in the hope that he could end the Gaza war.

Now, after Trump helped to broker a ceasefire deal, Laqman feels thrilled and a bit vindicated after months of backlash from neighbours angry over Trump's support for Israel.

"It's almost as I told you so moment," said Laqman, who is Yemeni American. "No other president would have been able to force Bibi to approve the ceasefire," she said, referring to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.—RT/Agency

Trump Declared in "Excellent Health" as America's Oldest-Ever President Faces Election Heat



US: Donald Trump is in "excellent overall health," his physician says after the 79-year-old — the oldest elected president in US history — underwent his second medical checkup of the year.

Trump saw physicians at Walter Reed military hospital on the outskirts of the capital, Washington, earlier in the day.

He gave reporters the thumbs-up on his return to the White House when they asked how the checkup had gone.

"His cardiac age — a validated measure of cardiovascular vitality — was ECG — was found to be approximately 14 years younger than his chronological age. He continues to maintain a demanding daily schedule without restriction."—RT/Agency

Back to the Future: Macron Reappoints Lecornu as France's Prime Minister



FRANCE: French President Emmanuel Macron reappointed Sebastien Lecornu as prime minister just days after he quit the job, a move that enraged some of the president's fiercest political opponents who pledged to vote out the new government.

Macron, 47, will hope loyalist Lecornu can draw enough support from a deeply divided parliament to pass a 2026 budget. Faced with France's worst political crisis in decades, many of Macron's rivals have demanded he either call fresh parliamentary elections or resign.

The immediate reaction to Lecornu's appointment from the far right and hard left was seething, suggesting his second stint as prime minister will be no easier than his first, which ended on Monday when he resigned after just 27 days in office.

"The Lecornu II government, appointed by Emmanuel Macron who is more isolated and out of touch than ever at the Elysee Palace, is a bad joke, a democratic disgrace and a humiliation for the French people," National Rally party president Jordan Bardella posted on X.

There was no immediate reaction from the leadership of the Socialists and the conservative Republicans, both of whom will be crucial to Lecornu's survival.

Lecornu's most pressing task will be to deliver a budget to parliament by the end of Monday.—RT/Agency

Fazlur Rehman, Kundi Hold Emergency Talks Over KP's Political and Security Turmoil



ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi held an important meeting with Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief and senior politician Maulana Fazlur Rehman at his residence. During the meeting, both leaders held detailed consultations on the province's prevailing political climate and law and order situation. They discussed the ongoing security operations in various parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the challenges to peace and stability, and the federal scenario following the resignation of the provincial chief minister. The discussion also covered the upcoming Senate elections and by-elections in Chitral and Haripur, as well as the evolving political alliances and their possible implications for the province.—RT/Agency

Pakistan at UN Slams India's "Dangerous Delusion" of Striking Again



UNITED NATIONS: A senior Pakistani diplomat drew the United Nations' attention to the persisting threats from India to strike Pakistan again - despite its "humiliating defeat in the conflict in May, saying the Indian indignation was dismissive of the world community's desire for peace, stability and risk reduction. Speaking in the UN General Assembly's First Committee, which deals with disarmament and international security matters, Ambassador Bilal Ahmad said that South Asia was once again brought to the brink by India's unprovoked military assault against Pakistan in May -- employing dual-capable missiles, autonomous loitering munitions and fighter aircraft, in violation of the UN Charter and international law. "This marked the first-ever use of such capabilities by one nuclear-armed state against another," said Ambassador Ahmad, who is Pakistan's permanent representative to UN offices in Geneva.—RT/Agency

Naqvi Vows Full Support to Ensure Smooth Tableeghi Ijtema Preparations

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Saturday met with a delegation of the Tableeghi Jamaat to discuss preparations for the annual Tableeghi Ijtema scheduled for November. The delegation included Anwar Chani, Iqbal Mian, Muhammad Aamir, and Zahid Peacha. Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry, the chief commissioner, and the inspector general of Islamabad were also present during the meeting. Naqvi assured the delegation that the Ministry of Interior would provide full support for the successful organization of the event. He stated that special assistance would be given to international participants in obtaining visas. He added that, as in previous years, special counters would be set up at airports to facilitate arriving guests. "Providing ease and support for Islamic preaching is our duty and a source of spiritual reward," he said.—RT/Agency

Biden Battles Aggressive Cancer: Undergoing Radiation & Hormone Therapy

US: Former U.S. President Joe Biden, 82, is undergoing radiation and hormone therapy after being diagnosed in May with an aggressive prostate cancer that has spread to his bones. The diagnosis followed urinary symptoms and discovery of a prostate nodule. Biden, who lost his son Beau to cancer in 2015, shared a heartfelt message: "Cancer touches us all... we are strongest in the broken places." He thanked supporters for their love as he fights the disease head-on.—RT

Trump Blames Democrats as Thousands of Federal Workers Brace for Layoffs in Shutdown Crisis

WASHINGTON :President Donald Trump accused Democrats of forcing his hand after thousands of U.S. government employees were laid off during the ongoing federal shutdown. The layoffs, part of a broader downsizing campaign, affected multiple departments, including Treasury, Health and Human Services, Education, Commerce, and Homeland Security's cybersecurity division.

Speaking in the Oval Office, Trump said Democrats "started this thing," calling the job cuts "Democrat-ordered." About 300,000 federal civilian workers were already set to leave their jobs this year due to his administration's cost-cutting agenda.—RT/Agency

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