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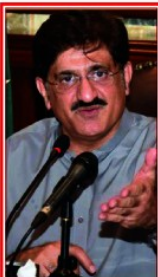
NATIONAL

Khawaja Saad Rafique Urges Pakistan and Afghanistan to Set Clear Path for Peaceful Coexistence



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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Key commanders among over 70 terrorists killed in targeted Afghanistan strikes

RAWALPINDI: Security forces carried out a precise and coordinated operation in Afghanistan's Paktika province overnight, eliminating more than 70 terrorists belonging to the outlawed Gul Bahadur group.

According to security officials, the strikes were based on confirmed intelligence and specifically targeted the group's hideouts across various parts of Paktika. The operation resulted in the deaths of several senior commanders and members of the militant network responsible for multiple cross-border attacks. Among those killed were key commanders identified as Farman alias Al-Karama, Siddiqullah Dawar, Ghazi Madakhel, Muqarrab, and Qismatullah. Officials confirmed that other senior figures



— Gulab alias Deewana, Rahmani, Adil, and Fazl-ur-Rehman — were also neutralised in the strikes. Fazl-ur-Rehman was reportedly a close relative of the group's ringleader, Gul Bahadur. Intelligence sources revealed that the action was conducted following credible reports of the militants' presence and operational planning within Paktika. The precision strikes, described by officials as "highly effective", inflicted heavy losses on the network, severely disrupting its cross-border operations. Five martyred, 4 terrorists killed as security forces foil suicide blast in North Waziristan. The Gul Bahadur group has been linked to several major terrorist attacks in Pakistan. On the same day as the Paktika operation, the group carried out a failed vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) attack in Khadi, North Waziristan, which claimed the lives of three women.—RT/Agency

Taliban Must Rein in India-Backed Proxies Using Afghan Soil to Target Pakistan: Field Marshal Munir

Following heightened tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir has issued a stern call to the Taliban regime, urging it to take firm and immediate action against terrorist proxies using Afghan soil to launch attacks inside Pakistan.

The army chief, who was addressing a passing-out parade at the Pakistan Military Academy (PMA) Kakul, Abbottabad, on Saturday, urged the people of Afghanistan to choose "mutual peace and security over violence".

The Taliban government in Kabul should act decisively against militant proxies operating from its soil for ter-



rorist activities in Pakistan, he said while attending the passing-out parade of the 152nd PMA Long Course, 37th Technical Graduate Course, 71st Integrated Course, and 26th Lady Cadet Course, as the chief guest. The COAS's remarks came a day after the extension of a temporary truce between Pakistan and Afghanistan, following days of fierce fighting that left dozens dead and hundreds wounded. In his address to the graduating cadets, Field Marshal Munir highlighted the armed forces' role in defending the country's internal and external frontiers since its creation.—RT/Agency

PM Shehbaz hails economic stability, diplomatic wins, military victory over India

KHANEWAL/JAHANIAN: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has declared that Pakistan has set a new precedent in achieving economic stability and diplomatic success, crediting tireless governance and unity of purpose.

Speaking to the media in Jahanian, Punjab, the Prime Minister said Pakistan's military victory against India was a result of the courage and bravery of the armed forces, as well as divine support. He emphasized that key initiatives in Punjab — including transport, education, healthcare, and road infrastructure — have delivered meaningful relief to the public. Shehbaz Sharif



added that through relentless hard work, Pakistan is now firmly on the path to progress and prosperity. "All economic indicators are improving," he claimed, noting that Pakistan has emerged from the brink of default within just 18 months. Recalling the state of the country when his government took over, he said the economy was in deep crisis. "We've stabilised it, but we must continue to work with honesty and diligence." He further emphasised that Pakistan's recent diplomatic and military achievements — including a significant defensive success against India — have enhanced the country's image globally.—RT/Agency

Mercurial Trump Admits 100% China Tariffs 'Unsustainable' but Vows to Meet Xi in Bid for New Deal

US: US President Donald Trump said his proposed 100% tariff on goods from China would not be sustainable, but blamed Beijing for the latest impasse in trade talks that began with Chinese authorities tightening control over rare-earth exports.

Asked whether such a high tariff was sustainable and what that might do to the US economy, Trump replied: "It's not sustainable, but that's what the number is."

"They forced me to do that," he said in an interview with Fox Business Network that was broadcast. Trump unveiled additional levies of 100% on imports of Chinese goods a week ago, along with new export controls on "any and all critical software" by November 1, nine days before existing tariff relief was set to expire. The new trade actions were Trump's reaction to China's dramatic expansion of its export controls on rare



earth elements. China dominates the market for such elements, which are essential to tech manufacturing. Trump also confirmed he would meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping in two weeks in South Korea and expressed admiration for the Chinese leader. "I think we're going to be fine with China, but we have to have a fair deal. It's got to be fair," Trump said on Fox's "Morning with Maria," which was taped later, as he was preparing to have lunch at the White House with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to discuss efforts to end its war with Russia, Trump said. "China wants to talk, and we like talking to China." The softening in tone and affirmation of his intent to meet with Xi helped stem Wall Street's early losses on Friday. Major US stock indexes, which have been rattled over the last week by Trump's abrupt re-imposition of steep levies on Chinese imports and by credit worries among regional banks, were up in afternoon trading.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Draws "Red Line" in Doha Talks: Demands Taliban End Cross-Border Terrorism or Face Consequences

DOHA: In high-stakes negotiations in Doha, Pakistan has sent a forceful message to the Afghan Taliban, demanding an immediate halt to cross-border terrorism and militant infiltration from Afghan soil. The first round of talks between the two nations has concluded, with the second round set to resume tomorrow under the mediation of Qatar. The talks come amid escalating border tensions, which have prompted Pakistan to take a firm stance. Diplomats sources reveal that Pakistan has outlined a clear "red line," warning



the Taliban that the presence of militant groups like Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) within Afghanistan is unacceptable. Pakistan also singled out extremist organizations "Fitna al-Khawarij" and "Fitna al-Hindustan" as direct threats to the region's security. At the heart of the discussions is Pakistan's demand for an immediate end to cross-border infiltration and militant attacks launched from Afghan

territory. Islamabad has made it clear that any future strikes originating from Afghanistan will trigger a robust and proportionate military response. Leading the Pakistani delegation is Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, supported by senior security and intelligence officials. On the Afghan side, the talks are headed by Taliban Defence Minister Mullah Muhammad Yaqoob, with the Taliban's intelligence chief Mawlawi Abdul Haq Wathiq also present. The negotiations are being hosted and facilitated by Qatar's intelligence chief, underscoring the sensitive nature of the discussions. Pakistan's message to Kabul is unmistakable: patience is wearing thin. Islamabad has emphasized that Afghanistan must take decisive action against terrorist groups operating on its soil and prevent its territory from being used as a launchpad for attacks against Pakistan. Pakistani officials have stressed that the future of border peace hinges on the Taliban's verifiable commitment to combating terrorism.—RT/Agency

Pakistan Launched Precision Strikes on Gul Bahadur Terror Network, Confirms Tarar



ISLAMABAD: Amid ongoing hostilities with Afghanistan, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaulah Tarar on Saturday confirmed that the Pakistan last night, conducted "precision strikes" on verified camps of the proscribed Gul Bahadur group in the border areas of North and South Waziristan districts.

"In these precision strikes, [a] minimum [of] 60-70 Kharjis [terrorists] and their leadership have been sent to hell based on confirmed intelligence reports," the federal minister wrote on X.

The two neighbouring nations are witnessing heightened tensions amid the Afghan Taliban regime's reluctance to act against terrorist groups, operating from Afghanistan soil, in the backdrop of rising terror attacks in Pakistan.

The Taliban forces and India-backed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), alias Fitna al-Khawarij, resorted to an unprovoked attack on Pakistan on October 12.

The Pakistan Armed Forces gave a befitting response to the aggression, killing over 200 Afghan Taliban and affiliated militants in a self-defence action. The military's media wing, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), said that 23 soldiers embraced martyrdom in the clashes with the Taliban forces and the terrorists.

Furthermore, the security forces also conducted "precision strikes" in Afghanistan's Kandahar province and the capital Kabul, successfully destroying multiple strongholds in response to recent aggression. A temporary truce between the neighbours — which Pakistan agreed to at the request of Afghanistan — on October 15 paused days of fierce fighting that killed dozens and wounded hundreds.

However, Tarar — in today's post — noted that during the 48-hour ceasefire, militants affiliated with the Khawarij group and operating from Afghanistan attempted multiple terrorist attacks inside Pakistan.—RT/Agency

Two Hardcore Khawarij Militants Sent to Hell in Successful Intelligence Operation in Bannu



BANNU: Security forces conducted a successful intelligence-based operation (IBO) in the Mughal Kot sector of Bannu, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, killing two Khawarij terrorists, including their ringleader.

According to media reports, the operation effectively targeted the network of Fitna al-Khawarij, which had been actively involved in terrorist activities over the past two years. Heavy weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the slain militants. Security officials stated that the operation dealt a significant blow to the group's structure and disrupted its future plans for terrorist activities in the region. They reaffirmed that Pakistan's armed forces remain fully committed to eliminating the remnants of terrorism and ensuring lasting peace and stability across the country.—RT/Agency

Iran Drops Nuclear Deal Restraints, Declares It's No Longer Bound by Any Restrictions

IRAN: Iran said on Saturday that it was no longer bound by restrictions on its nuclear programme as a landmark 10-year deal between it and world powers expired, though Tehran reiterated its "commitment to diplomacy".

The 2015 deal — signed in Vienna by Iran, China, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — saw the lifting of international sanctions against Iran in exchange for restrictions on its nuclear programme.

But the pact had already been in tatters after Washington unilaterally withdrew during President Donald Trump's first term, with Iran later pulling back from its commitments.

The reimposition last month of UN sanctions at the urging of three of the deal's European signatories rendered the accord effectively moot.

From now on, "all of the provisions (of the deal), in-



cluding the restrictions on the Iranian nuclear programme and the related mechanisms are considered terminated," Iran's foreign ministry said in a statement on the day of the pact's expiration.

"Iran firmly expresses its commitment to diplomacy," it added.

Western powers have long accused Iran of secretly seeking nuclear weapons — something it has repeatedly denied, insisting its nuclear programme is solely for civilian purposes such as energy production. The deal's

"termination day" was set for October 18, 2025, exactly 10 years after it was enshrined in the UN's Security Council resolution 2231. The accord capped Iran's uranium enrichment at 3.67 percent in exchange for sanctions relief and provided for strict supervision of its nuclear activities by the UN's nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). But Washington left the deal in 2018 and reinstated sanctions, after which Tehran began stepping up its nuclear program.—RT/Agency

Field Marshal Asim Munir Applauds Trump's Global Peace Efforts, Calls Them 'Remarkable'

KAKUL: Field Marshal Asim Munir has lauded former US President Donald Trump's efforts and strategic leadership in promoting peace across several conflict-hit regions of the world. Addressing the passing-out parade at the Pakistan Military Academy in Kakul, the Army Chief said Trump's initiatives toward global stability deserve appreciation. He noted that the reactivation of Pakistan's strong and expanding relations with the United States is an encouraging and positive development. "We will con-



tinue to strengthen these ties with key global and regional leaders in the interest of peace, security, and prosperity," he said.

Field Marshal Munir reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to constructive international engagement, emphasizing that cooperation between major powers and developing nations is essential for ensuring a peaceful and stable global order.—RT/Agency

Khawaja Asif Calls for End to Pakistan's 'Soft State' Era, Urges Shift to a Hard Power Posture

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan must shed its "soft state" image and establish itself as a strong, law-enforcing "hard state," Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said, following a high-level meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The meeting, attended by Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, senior military leadership, and the chief ministers of all provinces, reviewed the internal security situation, including the recent unrest in Punjab linked to the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) protests.

Defence Minister Khawaja Asif praised the Punjab government for effectively handling the violent demonstrations under the leadership of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, saying the province's decisive action set an example for others to follow.



"The way Punjab's administration, under Maryam Nawaz's leadership, controlled the situation is commendable," Asif said, emphasizing that all provinces should adopt similar resolve in dealing with extremist groups and lawless elements.

He noted that the Punjab government took a "decisive stance" against TLP rioters and that this approach should form the foundation of a broader national counter-extremism framework.

"As a nation, we must end the image of a 'soft state.' Pakistan should now emerge as a 'hard state' governed by the Constitution and rule of law — Punjab has taken the first step," Asif stated in a post on X (formerly Twitter).—RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES THE HEARTLAND



Qaumi Awami Tehreek Rises in Revolt Against Rampant Corruption in Sindh

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: Qaumi Awami Tehreek (QAT) Latifabad Taluka organized a workers' convention in Village Darya Khan Solangi, led by Hyderabad District President Nazeer Baloch. QAT leaders, including Altaf Khaskheli and Advocate Zahid Bhanbhro, condemned widespread corruption in Sindh's institutions, blaming 18



years of misrule for rising crime and drug issues. They vowed to launch a peaceful, democratic movement against the Sindh government's failed policies, demanding justice and basic rights for the people. Sindhyani Tehreek leaders also participated.

MPA Zubair Ahmed Junejo Honors Fallen Heroes of Karsaz Tragedy

By ZA Babar

KAKAR: PPP is the party of martyrs whose sacrifices established democracy. October 18, 2007, remains a sorrowful day as many supporters were martyred or injured in the Karsaz suicide bombing during Benazir Bhutto's return. PPP MPA Zubair Ahmed



Junejo, in a statement from Junejo House, saluted the martyrs and emphasized the party's continued commitment to the mission of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, carried forward by Bilawal Bhutto for the people's welfare. PPP remains confident in the power of the people.

New Leadership Takes Charge at National Press Club Kashmore

By Aftab Bhatti

KASHMORE: Elections were held at the National Press Club Kashmore, resulting in the election of new office bearers. Zubair Ahmed Kalwar was elected Chairman, Allah Bachayoo Shaikh as President, and Javed Iqbal Pathan as General Secretary. For Senior Vice President, Khan Ajaz Channa won with 10 votes against Iqbal Soomro, while Manzoor Hussain Shar secured the



Vice President position with 8 votes, defeating GM Shaikh. Other members were appointed through consultation. The newly elected team pledged to work diligently

for public welfare and raise the voice of the oppressed at higher levels, receiving congratulations from political and social leaders and the journalist community.

Doctors Unite in Fury Over Brutal Attack, Demand Protection at Moro Hospital

By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: Doctors and staff of Moro Hospital staged a protest after an attack on pediatric specialist Dr. Muhammad Yameen Kalhoro, demanding immediate police security and protection for hospital personnel. Led by MS Dr. Ghulam Mustafa Memon and senior doctors, protesters said staff face daily threats and abuse from unruly individuals, disrupting



duties and patient care. They urged Provincial Home Minister Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar, the Health Minister, and Session Judge Naushehro Feroze

to ensure full security, arrest the attackers and file cases. They warned of two-hour token strikes each day until safeguards are provided.

Shaheen Computer Center Pithoro Celebrates Top Achievers in Grand Ceremony

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: In Pithoro, a ceremony was held at Shaheen Computer Center to announce the results of the quarterly tests. Principal Ghulam Qadir Arisar hosted the event attended by teachers Mohan Lal, Jijo Ram, and local residents including Haji Muhammad Usman, Shaikh Najamuddin Abro, and others. Top-performing students received shields and medals, while those completing computer courses were



awarded certificates. Speakers praised the center for empowering many students, especially girls, with skills leading to jobs and businesses across various cities.

Tragic Crash on National Highway Leaves One Dead, Another Battling for Life

TALHAR: A high-speed car lost control and crashed into a tree near Tando Ghulam Hyder Sim Nullah on the Hyderabad-Badin Road. As a result, one passenger, Babu Punjabi, died on the spot, while another was seriously injured. The injured person was given first aid at a local

hospital and later referred to Hyderabad for further treatment. The deceased was reportedly a resident of Shaheed Fazil Rahu city.--RT

Final Phase of Drainage Work Nears Completion in UC-125 Hyderabad

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: Chairman UC-125 Istehsan Barkat Burio stated that, with special support from Mayor Kashif Shoro, drainage

work in Union Committee 125 is near completion. He said a 325-foot pipeline in Ward-1, Industries Colony, is complete, improving sewage flow. On directions from Provincial Minister Jam Khan Shoro and the Mayor, work continues without discrimination. Anti-mosquito spray will also be carried out soon to prevent diseases.

Zardari Community Erupts in Protest Over Rising Crime and Police Apathy in Aliabad

By Aijaz Jakhlo

DAULATPUR: Residents of the Zardari community staged a protest at Aliabad Stop on the National Highway, burning tires and blocking the road. They alleged that police released two armed robbers caught by villagers in exchange for bribes. Protesters, including Haji Khan Zardari and others, demanded SSP Shaheed Benazirabad take strict action against the responsible officers and ensure the arrest of culprits to restore peace in the area.

Digri Educators Set New Standards of Excellence in the Classroom



By Farooq Randhawa

DIGRI: The Primary Education Officer, Male, Dur Muhammad Shalmani, praised government school teachers in Digri for their outstanding dedication. During a ceremony where many teachers received Best Teacher awards and certificates from STEDA, he highlighted that hundreds of honest and hardworking teachers in Digri's towns and villages are providing better education than private schools. This achievement is a source of pride for students, parents, and education advocates alike.

Larkana School Clinches PCB Talent Hunt Inter-School Cricket Title



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Government Municipal High School scored 101 runs, successfully defending their target as Global Science School was all out for 81. Muhammad Rizwan was named Man of the Match. District Cricket Association President Kazim Ali Abbasi distributed prizes, while the PCB provided equipment to all participating teams. The event was attended by prominent local cricket figures and organizers.



UMERKOT: Picture shows Dr. Pritam Aashal, son of retired Agriculture Department Deputy Director Dr. Hemraj and grandson of Late Prabhu Mal Aashal from Samaro after successfully passing the extremely challenging USMLE Part I and Part II medical licensing exams in the United States.--RT



LARKANA: General Secretary of PPP Larkana Division Abdul Fattah Bhutto, District President PPP MNA Khurshid Ahmed Junejo, Chairman District Council Larkana and General Secretary PPP District Aijaz Ahmed Laghari and others are offering Fataha at the graves of Karsaz martyrs at Garhi Khuda Bux.--Photo by Ahmed Raza Soomro



LARKANA: Artists are performing on stage during an enthralling musical function at the Arts Council of Pakistan Larkana.--Photo by Ahmed Raza Soomro

Jhudo Hosts Powerful Anti-Drug Rally and Awareness Seminar

By Shahid Majeed

JHUDO: An awareness seminar against drug abuse was organized by the Anti-Narcotics Control Organization under the leadership of Zahir Qaimkhani and Malik Aslam at Government Elementary Boys School, Muhammad Khan Talpur, Jhudo. The event was attended by Headmaster Manoj Kumar, School SMC member Shahid Majeed Qaimkhani, renowned Dr. Tahir Qaimkhani, Haji Rashid, and others. Speakers highlighted the growing drug menace, its harmful effects, and the importance of staying drug-free for a brighter future. The program concluded with an anti-drug rally, where children and adults chanted slogans like "Say no to drugs, yes to life."



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Khairpur's DHO Pledges Zero Tolerance to Negligence, Targets Polio Eradication

KHAIROPUR: District Health Officer Dr. Syed Masroor-ul-Hassan Shah visited BHU Gadeji and emphasized the provision of quality and timely healthcare in Khairpur. He inspected medical records, medicine stores, equipment, and polio campaign progress. Reviewing staff performance and attendance, he warned that any negligence, especially in the polio campaign, would face strict accountability. He stressed that no carelessness



will be tolerated, aiming for eradication of polio through a modern, responsive healthcare system and complete rigorous monitoring and performance-based actions.--RT

Sindh Graduates Association Honors Educators on World Teachers' Day

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: An award ceremony organized by the Sindh Graduates Association was held at Mumtaz Mirza Auditorium, Sindh Museum, Hyderabad, in honor of World Teachers' Day. Commissioner Hyderabad, Fayyaz Hussain Abbasi, attended as chief guest and praised teachers as nation-builders who shape character and instill values in students. He emphasized recognizing students' achievements publicly and

guiding them privately. Abbasi lauded the Sindh Graduates Association for its role in promoting education. Awards and shields were distributed to outstanding teachers and students for their contributions and achievements.

PPP Shahdadt Commemorates Karsaz Martyrs with Deep Reverence

SHAHADKOT: PPP Taluka Shahdadt General Secretary Raees Wajid Ali Khan Chandio, Vice President Mir Darya Khan Mastoi, UC Aitbar Khan Chandio, Chairman Raes Abdul Khaliq Khan Chandio, and City General Secretary Sirat Qurban Ali Soomro paid tribute to the martyrs of the Karsaz tragedy. They said the martyrs gave their lives to protect



Shahdadt always fought against dictatorship and stood for democracy, stability, and national progress.--RT

Seventeen-Year Delay Haunts Construction of Kunri Chili Market Building

KUNRI: The construction work of the new Kunri Chili Market building near Boder Farm Road, Kunri city, has been delayed for the past 17 years. MNA Saba Talpur from the PPP submitted a written request urging the Sindh government to restart the construction of the market building. In response, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah took notice



and sought a report from the Secretary of Agriculture. Previously, multiple reports were requested, and investigations by anti-corruption and other agencies were conducted, but no conclusive results have emerged yet.--RT

PPP Sanghar Remembers Karsaz Martyrs with Prayers and Public Gathering in Sinjoro

By Khadim Hussain Khaskheli

SANGHAR: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Taluka Sanghar organized a Quran Khawani and tribute gathering at Goth Gohram Khan Laghari in memory of the martyrs of the 18 October 2007 Karsaz tragedy. Hosted by PPP Taluka President Raza Jhail Chairman Rana Rashid Aftab Laghari, the event was attended by PPP Shahdadt



nazirabad Division General Secretary Javed Nayab Laghari, Town Committee Sattar Khaskheli, Ali Bux Khoro, Ibrahim Chang, Ali Rajput, Sanghar District Vice President Chaudhry wing members.

Badin Battles Dengue Surge as Hospitals Run Short on Vital Medicines

TALHAR: Dengue and malaria cases are rising rapidly across Badin district due to the lack of anti-mosquito spray campaigns. Despite having a multi-million-rupee health budget,

government hospitals are facing a severe shortage of medicines. Hundreds of patients, including men, women, and children, are turning to private hospitals in desperation. Civil society criticized the health department and demanded immediate action from the Sindh government to ensure medicine availability in public hospitals for the poor.--RT

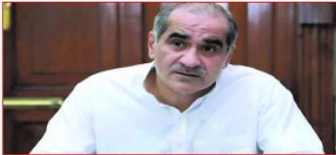
REGIONAL TIMES NATIONAL



Khawaja Saad Rafique Urges Pakistan and Afghanistan to Set Clear Path for Peaceful Coexistence

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-N leader Khawaja Saad Rafique said on Saturday that the proposed Pakistan-Afghanistan talks in Doha are extremely important. Commenting on the recent conflict between the two countries, he said Pakistan and Afghanistan must lay down permanent, clear rules for living together on the principle of coexistence, because geography cannot be changed.

He noted that despite the historical highs and lows and the ebb and flow in Pakistan-Afghanistan relations, it must be



remembered that millions of Muslims on both sides of the border share the same culture and language. Khawaja Saad Rafique added that while the Afghan government may maintain friendly ties with India, it should not do so at the cost of Pakistan's security. He said Pakistan must ensure that Afghanistan stops exporting armed extremists under all circumstances in return for the grain, essentials and other countless facilities Pakistan provides.—RT/Agency

Dar Lauds Strengthening of Pakistan-UK Relations, Calls for Deeper Economic Cooperation



ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar on Saturday appreciated the strengthening of Pakistan-UK ties and recent leadership-level interactions. He was talking to the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom Jane Marriot who called on him in Islamabad. During the meeting, they also discussed regional and global developments. A day earlier, Dar received a telephone call from European Union High Repre-

Pakistan Railways Ordered to Install Jammers on Trains to Bolster Passenger Security

The National Assembly's Standing Committee on Railways has directed the Pakistan Railways to install jammers on all trains and step up patrolling in sensitive areas to enhance passenger safety. The News reported on Saturday.



Chaired by MNA Ramesh Lal, the requisitioned meeting of the committee issued the instructions in light of recent security concerns, including the explosion on Jaffar Express. The committee recommended the installation of three jammers on every train to help prevent similar incidents in the future.—RT/Agency

Pakistan to Abandon Donor Appeals After 2022 Flood Aid Fiasco, Says Planning Minister

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal has said the government resolved annual trade-data discrepancies of around \$6 billion to the satisfaction of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The News reported on Saturday.

He announced that Pakistan would not seek assistance from international donors, given their poor response to the 2022 floods. He also launched a preliminary assessment putting damages from the 2025 floods at \$2.9 billion.

Addressing a news conference at the P Block Auditorium in the federal capital on Friday, the federal minister said Pakistan suffered \$30 billion in losses in the 2022 deluge but received only \$600 million in international



assistance. Against total pledges of \$10.9 billion, he said the remaining assistance was committed through the re-purposing of loans by the international donors. Now the government, he said, had decided to assist the flood-affected areas with the help of its own resources, keeping in view the appetite of international donors. Iqbal said the prime minister had congratulated KP Chief Minister Sohail Afridi,

Shazia Marri Calls October 18 the Day of Democracy's True Devotees

ISLAMABAD: Shazia Marri, central spokeswoman of Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians, said that October 18 is the day of democracy's devotees.

Paying tribute to the martyrs of the Karsaz tragedy, Shazia Marri said in her message that she salutes the invincible courage, loyalty and great sacrifices of the martyrs. She stated that the day of October 18, 2007, is the day of democracy's devotees, and on the instructions of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, prayer gatherings are being arranged in all district headquarters across the country on October 18. She recalled that more than three million people gave a historic welcome to the late Mohrtama Benazir Bhutto on her return to the homeland, and on that day 180 brave party workers laid down their lives for democracy and for their leader.—RT/Agency

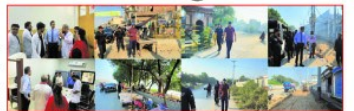


Central Punjab

DC Gujranwala Inspects City Projects and DHQ Hospital Under Health Services Program

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Deputy Commissioner Naveed Ahmed conducted an early morning visit to key areas of the city including



Gujranwala Teaching Hospital, GT Road, Kangniwala Bypass, Sialkot Bypass, and others. As part of the Health Service Program, he thoroughly inspected departments at the DHQ Hospital, reviewed doctors' attendance, and interacted with patients. He directed the hospital administration to ensure quality treatment. He emphasized that providing free, quality healthcare to the middle class and pa-tients from remote areas is a key priority of the Punjab government.

Federal Minister Junaid Anwar Reviews Major Development Schemes in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: A District Coordination Committee meeting was held under the chairmanship of Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Chaudhry Junaid Anwar, to review the ongoing and new development schemes across the district. Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela, briefed participants on 32 projects, including roads, education, sports, and Punjab government's urban sewerage. The Minister emphasized timely completion and quality work, ensuring transparency. He said the meeting and shared progress updates.



Pakistan Hosts Pioneering IAEA Training on Mutation Breeding to Boost Global Nutrition



FAISALABAD: The Regional Training Course (RTC) on "Advanced Mutation Breeding Techniques" concluded at Pakistan's Nuclear Institute for Agriculture and Biology (NIAB). Organized by IAEA, the

course brought together 30 experts from 14 countries. The training, focused on improving nutritional quality, addressed climate change impacts, malnutrition, and agricultural challenges. PAEC's Prof. Muhammad Youssef Saleem highlighted the urgency of mutation breeding in tackling food insecurity. NIAB's Dr. Uzma Maqbool hailed the collaboration as a vital step toward a resilient and food-secure future.—RT

Ex-Senator Mushtaq Ahmed Breaks Away from Jamaat-e-Islami, Joins Emerging Political Force

ISLAMABAD: Former senator and recently freed Israeli detainee, Mushtaq Ahmed, has made a surprising political shift, leaving Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) and joining the Tehreek-e-Tahafuz Ayeen-e-Pakistan (TTAP). This political movement, formed by six parties, aims to protect Pakistan's constitution. After his release, Mushtaq Ahmed met TTAP leaders Mahmood Khan Achakzai



and Allama Nasir Abbas signals a new chapter in his political journey as he aligns with a growing force advocating constitutional rights.—RT/Agency

GLOBAL

24 Transgender Individuals Hospitalized in Indore After Mass Suicide Attempt

INDIA: At least 24 people from the transgender community were hospitalized in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, after allegedly consuming disinfectant in a mass suicide attempt linked to a dispute with a rival group. The incident occurred on Wednesday night, with the individuals claiming to have ingested phenyl. While none were reported in critical condition, the exact trigger for the act remains unclear, though tensions between groups are suspected.—RT

Irfan Junejo to Represent Pakistan in Historic FC Barcelona Interviews with LaLiga



BARCELONA: Irfan Junejo, Pakistan's top content creator, will represent the country in an exclusive pre-El Clásico media opportunity with FC Barcelona, marking the first-ever official Pakistani representation at the club's base camp. This milestone collaboration between Begin, LaLiga's streaming partner for South Asia, offers fans exclusive behind-the-scenes access to Barcelona's star players. Junejo, a lifelong Barcelona fan, called the experience surreal, as Begin continued redefining South Asian engagement with global football through immersive content.—RT

Notice Issued to DHA Coffee Shop for Using Thai Café Chain's Name Unlawfully



KARACHI: A consumer court in Karachi has issued a notice to a coffee shop in DHA Phase-VIII, accusing it of unlawfully using the name of Thailand-based café chain Mondo Espresso & Tea Bar. A complaint filed by consumer Syed Muhammad Ali Jafri alleges that Mondo Coffee is misusing the Thai brand's trademark, design and logo for financial gain. The court has summoned the café's representatives to appear on October 31 to respond to the allegations.—RT

Narowal Police Launch Crackdown on Drug Traffickers and Illegal Arms Dealers

By Rana Mudassar

NAROWAL: Under the supervision of District Police Officer Narowal, a strict crackdown on anti-social elements is underway across the district. Recently, two drug peddlers, Khalil and Rehan, were arrested by SHO Police Station Sadar Narowal, with 2.45 kilograms of hashish recovered. Similarly, Salik Masih was caught with a 30-bore pistol



during an operation at Shakargarh, illegal City Police Station. In arms and liquor were Badomalhi, Waris was also seized. All accused arrested with 1,380 have been charged and grams of hashish. In detained.

RPO Zeeshan Asghar Visits Toba Tek Singh, Stresses Discipline and Police Welfare

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Regional Police Officer (RPO) Faisalabad, Zeeshan Asghar, paid an official visit to District Toba Tek Singh. He visited the Police Lines, laid a floral wreath at the Martyrs' Memorial, and offered prayers for the departed souls. Later, he chaired a meeting with DPO Ibadat Nisar and other police officers to discuss operational chal-



enges and welfare concerns. RPO emphasized improving police performance, maintaining justice, and ensure law strict discipline, and re-order across the district. He urged the personnel to serve the public with dedication, uphold justice, and ensure law strict discipline, and re-order across the district. He urged the personnel to serve the public with dedication, uphold justice, and ensure law strict discipline, and re-order across the district.

DC Toba Tek Singh Conducts Surprise Visit to Bus Stand, Orders Immediate Service Overhaul

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela paid a surprise visit to the General Bus Stand along with ADCG Zeeshan Labha Masih and RTA Secretary. He reviewed cleanliness, lighting, security and passenger facilities. The DC instructed immediate improvements in



washrooms, drinking water, sheds, and waiting service standards will be areas, emphasizing that no compromise on public

METRO KARACHI

Karachi Blast Horror: One Dead, Six Injured as Gas Pressure Machine Explodes

KARACHI: A deadly explosion rocked New Karachi when a 'gas pressure machine' in a home detonated, killing one person and injuring six others. The blast destroyed two houses and four shops in the Ayub Goth area. In Karachi, residents often use risky fish aquarium compressors to boost low gas pressure, a dangerous practice that has caused past



tragedies. The explosion, he said, was a dangerous practice that has caused past

Brazen Armed Robbery at Gulshan-e-Hadeed Pharmacy Raises Alarm Over Public Safety

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: In Steel Town jurisdiction, three armed robbers looted Al-Mustaqeem Pharmacy

near Ayesha Hospital, Gulshan-e-Hadeed Phase 2. The robbers held staff and customers hostage, escaping with Rs 250,000 and five mobile phones. Area residents strongly condemned the incident and urged IG Sindh, DIG East, and SSP Malir to take urgent action against rising lawlessness.

EDITORIAL



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

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Trump the Reluctant Peacemaker: A Blunt Maverick Who May Just Be Saving the World from Itself

Love him or loathe him, Donald Trump's self-declared title of "war solver" might not be as far-fetched as his critics would like to believe. The former reality star turned U.S. president—often dismissed as brash, vain, and unpredictable—has, through sheer force of personality and unorthodox diplomacy, achieved what many seasoned politicians could not: keeping the world from plunging into new wars.

In an age when fiery rhetoric fuels global conflicts, Trump's brand of ego-driven diplomacy has paradoxically produced calm. His latest claims of having "defused eight wars," from the Middle East to South Asia, may sound exaggerated—but the

record does show that under his watch, nuclear ri-



vals like India and Pakistan stepped back from the brink, and the Gaza conflict found a fragile but real truce.

For all his flaws—his temper, his self-congratulation, his mercurial unpredictability—Trump's instinct to negotiate rather than invade has spared countless lives. His abrasive style, often mistaken for recklessness, has forced adversaries to the table where smoother diplomats failed. Even his

critics must admit: the man loves making deals, not wars.

And perhaps, just perhaps, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's lavish praise—calling Trump "the man the world needed most" and crediting him with saving millions—wasn't sycophancy after all. It may have been an uncomfortable truth that much of the world refuses to acknowledge.

Trump's presidency remains divisive, but history has a peculiar way of favoring results over manners. If his blunt diplomacy continues to keep nuclear powers from colliding, even his harshest detractors might one day concede that beneath the bombast lies a peacemaker—an unlikely, unwilling, but undeniably effective one.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND



PPP Pays Glowing Tribute to Karsaz Martyrs at Historic Luari Palace in Badin

By Jibrán Talpur

BADIN: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Badin organized a solemn condolence program at Luari Palace to mark the 18th anniversary of the tragic Karsaz incident of October 18, 2007. The event honored the memory of nearly 200 party workers martyred in a suicide attack during Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto's return to Karachi. Senator Ajiz Dhamra, Provincial Minister and Hyderabad Division General Secretary Ghanchand Israni, District Council Chairman Jam Ali Asghar Halipota, MNAs Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur and Haji Rasool Bux Chandio, MPAs Haji Taj Muhammad Mallah, Mir



Allah Bux Talpur, Dada Haji Muhammad Halipota, and Tanzila Um Habiba Qambrani, Chairman of Municipal Committee Pir Muhammad Saleh Qureshi, Fazil Rahu Junior and others spoke on the occasion. Senator Dhamra highlighted the sacrifices of

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Begum Nusrat Bhutto, Shaheed Mir Murtaza Bhutto, and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto for democracy. The event witnessed large participation from PPP leaders, party workers, social activists, and journalists.

DC Manzoor Kunrani Launches Sweeping Crackdown on Price Gougers in Ghotki



By Shad Mahar

GHOTKI: Following Deputy Commissioner Manzoor Ahmed Kunrani's orders, assistant commissioners and revenue officials inspected markets in Ghotki and against those involved in artificial price hikes and profiteering.

prices on essential items were fined Rs 25,000. The DC warned traders to sell at official rates and display price lists, stating strict action, including fines and imprisonment, will be taken against those involved in artificial price hikes and profiteering.

Five Injured as Panhwar Community Clash Erupts in Phulji Station

By Abdullah Shahani

PHULJI STATION: A violent clash erupted between two groups of the Panhwar community in Phulji Station over a family dispute. The confrontation took place at the city's main chowk, involving

sticks and batons, leaving five individuals injured. The victims include Muhammad Khan, Nasirullah, Zafarullah, Haji Ibrahim, and Mumtaz Ali Panhwar. Police reached the scene promptly, dispersed the crowd, and shifted the injured to Civil Hospital Dadu for treatment. SHO Sanwan Khan Kalhoro confirmed the fight stemmed from an ongoing domestic conflict. No FIR has been registered yet, but investigations are ongoing to retook place at the city's main chowk, involving

Shopkeeper Shot and Injured Amid Fiery Dispute in Kumb

By Naz Solangi

KUMB: Kumb city witnessed a horrifying act of violence early in the morning when a local shopkeeper, Farid Juno, known as a self-proclaimed journalist, opened indiscriminate

fire with an illegal pistol following a minor dispute. The firing left Taqueer Soomro, a fellow shopkeeper and laborer from the Soomro community, seriously injured. The injured man was named Taqueer Soomro. The victim's mother held a Holy Quran during a protest, demanding justice and the arrest of the attacker. Police have arrested Farid Juno, while Taqueer remains in critical condition at Kotdiji Hospital. Investigation is ongoing.

Sindh High Court Orders Private Schools to Offer Free Education to 10% Needy Students

SUKKUR: The Bench of the Sindh High Court has directed all private schools across the province to provide free education to at least 10 percent of poor and deserving students. In a written order, the court made it clear that any school failing to grant admission to the required quota of underprivileged students will have its registration suspended. The constitutional bench, comprising Justice Zulfikar Ali Sangi and Justice Riaz Ali Sahar, expressed strong displeasure over private schools' non-compliance with previous court directives. The judges emphasized that education is a basic right and private institutions must fulfil their social responsibility. The court instructed the Director of Private Schools to submit a comprehensive report within three months detailing the compliance status of all private schools across the Sindh. The hearing of the case has been adjourned until November 10.—RT

Registered NGOs Told to Strictly Comply with Sindh Government's Directives

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: Deputy Director of the Social Welfare Department, Shafqat Ali Solangi, has urged all registered social organizations to fully utilize their resources to implement Sindh government directives in accordance with laws and regulations. While presiding over a meeting with NGOs from Taluka City, he emphasized the submission of annual performance reports, renewal certificates, and three-year audit reports within three days. He warned of legal action against non-compliant organizations. Solangi highlighted the need for collaborative efforts to keep youth away from drugs and called for awareness seminars. A committee will be formed to monitor NGO activities. Representatives of various organizations also shared their views during the meeting.

HESCO's Anti-Theft Drive Recovers Over Rs 4.57 Million in Power Dues

By Mugeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: HESCO, 1,075 meters of PVC wire seized, and over Rs. 4.57 million recovered. Since January 19, 2025, HESCO has cut 28,971 illegal connections, arrested 693 suspects, and recovered over Rs. 68.97 million. CEO Faizullah Dahri reaffirmed zero tolerance for theft and directed 100% dues recovery. Consumers are urged to pay bills promptly or face disconnection and legal action. HESCO appeals for public cooperation to ensure reliable power supply.

PPP Larkana Marks 18 Years of Karsaz Martyrs at Garhi Khuda Bux

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Larkana district organized a commemorative event and Quran Khawani at Garhi Khuda Bux Bhutto on the 18th anniversary of the tragic Karsaz incident of October 18, 2007. The event was attended by PPP Larkana President MNA

Khurshid Ahmed Junjo, General Secretary Aijaz Ahmed Laghari, Divisional Secretary Abdul Fatah Bhutto, Taluka President Asadullah Bhutto, and other senior leaders, office bearers of the women's wing, youth and allied organizations. Leaders paid rich tribute to the martyrs of the Karsaz tragedy, recalling that when former Prime Minister Sha-

heed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto returned from exile, a deadly attack was carried out on her convoy in Karachi, killing and injuring several loyal party workers. Later, tributes were paid at the graves of 20 unidentified martyrs. Prayers were offered for the martyrs, national peace, and security, followed by food distribution.

Dadu Observes Home-Based Workers Day, Spotlighting Women's Struggles and Rights



By Javed Laghari

DADU: HomeNet Pakistan and Zindagi Development Organization marked Home-Based Workers Day, emphasizing the vital role of home-based women workers in the economy. Speakers urged the government to create legal protections, register

workers formally, ratify ILO Convention No. 177, and declare October 20 as official Home-Based Workers Day. They stressed the need to recognize women in informal sectors and implement policies ensuring their social protection, empowering them for a stronger, inclusive national economy.

Engineer Mir Muhammad Siyal Passes Away in Sakrand, Community Mourns Loss

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: Mir Muhammad Siyal, Incharge Engineer at Zardari House Nawabshah and brother of Professor Manzoor Siyal and Raheem Bakhsh Siyal, passed away after a

brief illness. His funeral prayers were attended by personalities from various political and social circles. The burial took place in his ancestral village, Niaz Siyal. Among those present were PPP District President Muhammad

Salim Zardari, District General Secretary Ali Haider Shah, District Chairman Ali Akbar Jamali, senior leaders, and members of Sukkur Press Club, who expressed condolences to the bereaved family.

Literary Icons Gather to Celebrate 98th Birth Anniversary of Najm Abbasi

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: The Progressive Writers Association Larkana marked the 98th birth anniversary of renowned Sindhi writer Najm Abbasi with a literary gathering. Presided over by poet Jam Jamali, the event included cake-cutting and a discussion on Abbasi's contribution to Sindhi fiction. Speakers highlighted his bold stance against feudalism, oppression, and outdated traditions. They praised his timeless



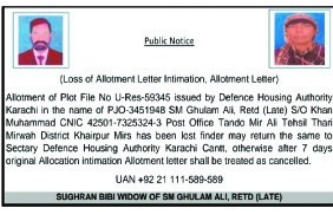
stories and called for his work to be translated into other languages to enlighten future generations. Poets, and intellectuals participated in large numbers.

Survey Kicks Off for Remodeling of Mirwah Talhar Canal to Ease Badin's Water Woes

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Survey work for remodeling the Mirwah Talhar canal, which irrigates millions of acres in Badin's coastal areas, has commenced under the supervision of SDO Itfikhah Ahmed Junjo. The project aims to rebuild all watercourses, construct a new es-

cape channel at RD 212 for drainage into the sea, raise canal banks, and clean and dredge the canal to improve water flow. Work will start in December and is expected to reduce water shortage, prevent wastage, and boost agricultural productivity, bringing prosperity to local farmers and fishermen.



Public Notice

(Loss of Allotment Letter Intimation, Allotment Letter)

Allotment of Plot File No U-Res-65345 issued by Defence Housing Authority Karachi in the name of PJO-3451948 SM Ghulam Ali, Retd (Late) S/O Khan Muhammad CNIC 42501-7325324-3 Post Office Tando Mir Ali Tehsil Thar Mirwah District Khairpur Mirs has been lost finder may return the same to Secretary Defence Housing Authority Karachi Caret, otherwise after 7 days original Allocation Intimation Allotment letter shall be treated as cancelled.

UAN +92 21 111-989-989

SUGHRAN BIBI WIDOW OF SM GHULAM ALI, RETD (LATE)



Rishad Hossain's Record 6-Wicket Haul Leads Bangladesh to Thrashing 74-Run Victory Over West Indies



Bangladesh dominated West Indies by 74 runs in the first ODI, with leg-spinner Rishad Hossain delivering a record-breaking 6-35. After posting a modest 207, Bangladesh bowled out the West Indies for just 133, with Rishad claiming his first five-wicket haul in ODIs. His figures became the best-ever by a Bangladesh spinner in ODIs and the second-best in the country's history. This stunning performance gave Bangladesh a 1-0 lead in the three-match series at Shere Bangla National Stadium.—RT

Rain Washes Out New Zealand vs England T20 Opener in Christchurch



The opening T20 between New Zealand and England was abandoned due to heavy rain in Christchurch on Saturday, leaving both teams frustrated. England posted a modest 153-6 in 20 overs, with Sam Curran's 49* anchoring the innings after a solid start from Jos Buttler (29). New Zealand's bowlers, Matt Henry (1-26) and Jacob Duffy (1-45), had earlier restricted England to 44-2 in the first six overs with early swing and bounce. The rain delay, however, forced play to be called off before New Zealand could chase the target. The second match of the series will take place at the same venue on Monday, with the final game in Auckland on Thursday, both teams gearing up for next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka.—RT

Late Goal Denies Pakistan Junior Hockey Team Bronze at Sultan of Johor Cup

Pakistan's junior hockey team missed out on a podium finish at the Sultan of Johor Cup, losing 3-2 to Great Britain in the third-place playoff. Despite leveling the game at 2-2 in the 54th minute, Pakistan were undone by a late goal from Henry Markham, three minutes before full-time. Great Britain had taken an early 2-0 lead, with Kaden Dreyse and Michael Royden scoring in the first quarter. Captain Abdul Hannan Shahid and Sufyan Khan's efforts fell short for Pakistan.—RT

Pakistan Thrashed 8-1 by Iraq in AFC Futsal Asia Cup Qualifier Opener

Pakistan endured a crushing 8-1 defeat against Iraq in their opening match of the AFC Futsal Asia Cup qualifiers on Saturday in Anak, Saudi Arabia. Despite a promising start, with Yousaf Ahmad's early chance going wide, Pakistan were overwhelmed by Iraq's attacking force. Iraq struck early with a goal in the 8th minute, as Salim Al Husaynat capitalized on a well-timed assist. The match quickly spiraled out of control for Pakistan, who struggled defensively as Iraq added more goals. The loss leaves Pakistan with a tough challenge ahead in Group 'D', where only group winners and the best seven second-place teams will qualify for next year's finals in Indonesia. Pakistan's next game is against Saudi Arabia, while Iraq will face Chinese Taipei. Pakistan's defensive lapses and missed opportunities on the attack will need to be addressed as they fight to keep their hopes alive in the tournament.—RT

Shohei Ohtani's Two-Way Brilliance Propels Dodgers into the World Series

LOS ANGELES: Shohei Ohtani delivered a historic two-way performance and powered Los Angeles Dodgers to a 5-1 victory over Milwaukee Brewers in the Major League Baseball (MLB) match here at the Dodger Stadium. The victory helped the Dodgers complete a 4-0 series sweep and secure their place in the World Series.

The 31-year-old Japanese superstar stunned fans by hitting three towering home runs and striking out 10 batters in a dominant display rarely seen in MLB history. Ohtani added home runs in the first, fourth, and seventh innings. Ohtani became the first



pitcher since 1942 to hit three home runs in a single game, achieving the feat that was last managed by Jim Tobin of the Boston Braves. His powerful hitting display included a 446-foot homer and a 469-foot blast that bounced out of the stadium, breaking an eight-game home run drought in emphatic fashion. His combination of elite pitching and explosive offense set a new MLB postseason record. This latest achievement adds to Ohtani's remarkable resume, following a 2024 season in which he became the first player in

league history to record both 50 home runs and 50 stolen bases. His performance was crucial in sending the Dodgers to their second straight World Series, where they will face either the Toronto Blue Jays or the Seattle Mariners, who currently lead their series 3-2. Ohtani was named series MVP for his efforts, as the Dodgers cruised past the Brewers in a commanding fashion. With four more wins standing between them and another championship, Los Angeles will look to ride Ohtani's momentum into the Fall Classic.—Agency

Liverpool Triumphs Over Real Madrid in Race to Sign Defensive Star Nico Schlotterbeck

Reigning Premier League champions Liverpool have edged out Real Madrid in the race to sign Borussia Dortmund's Nico Schlotterbeck, international media reported on Saturday.

The 25-year-old has established himself as one of the Bundesliga's top centre-backs, and his performances have drawn the interest of numerous European teams ahead of next summer's transfer market.

According to the reports, Madrid now expects Schlotterbeck to join Liverpool while the Spanish club focuses on Ibrahim Konate's contract situation at Anfield. Liverpool's search for a new centre-back has become increasingly urgent as the club failed to sign Crystal



Palace captain Marc Guehi on transfer deadline day in September. Adding further to their woes, new signing Giovanni Leoni is sidelined due to injury, leaving behind the senior trio of Virgil van Dijk, Konate and Joe Gomez in centre defence until at least January. With Van Dijk aged 34, Konate's contract expiration, and Gomez nearly leaving the club during the summer window, Liverpool is desperately in need of long-term defensive stability. Reports further suggested that Liverpool have already started initial talks with the player's representatives. Dortmund, on the other hand, is eager to keep him and has offered him a new contract worth approximately €8 million (\$9.3 million) per year. Despite that offer, Schlotterbeck is said to be reluctant to extend his stay, prompting Dortmund's sporting director, Lars Ricken, to issue a major warning and stressing that focus should be on prospects instead of salary. "It is his absolute right to plan his future carefully. We respect that," Ricken said. "And I believe that the focus should not be on salary, but on prospects, trust, and conviction.. We will not rush into anything. But of course, we don't want to drag it out indefinitely. Everyone is aware of that." Liverpool's pursuit of Schlotterbeck is a critical step in rebuilding their defensive rebuild. If successful, it would represent a major transfer blow for Real Madrid.—Agency

Enzo Maresca Hit with Touchline Ban Ahead of Crucial Nottingham Forest Showdown

WEST BRIDGFORD: Chelsea head coach Enzo Maresca will serve a one-match ban in the Premier League clash against Nottingham Forest at the City Ground on Saturday.

The suspension follows his red card misconduct during the 2-1 victory over Liverpool earlier this month.

The Football Association confirmed that Maresca admitted the allegations earlier this week after being expelled in the sixth minute of stoppage time for widely celebrating his side's late winner.

Speaking to Italian media, the 45-year-old described his reaction as 'instinctive' and joked that the sending off was 'worth it'. Chelsea's preparations for the encounter have also



been disrupted by Cole Palmer's continued absence due to a groin injury, which is expected to keep the midfielder out for another six weeks. The 23-year-old midfielder has not played since limping off in the 20th minute of a 2-1 defeat to Manchester United on September 20. Maresca admitted his earlier optimism about Palmer's quick return was misplaced. "I was wrong. Unfortunately, he needs to be out probably six more weeks," Maresca said. "We try just to protect Cole as much as we can, but the most important thing is that when he comes back he's fully fit; the medical staff are not magicians—we have to take it step by step." The coach confirmed the injury would not require surgery but said the club must monitor Palmer's recovery closely. "He looks relaxed. He's doing all the therapy that he needs to do. He looks good," he added. The 23-year-old's absence has been felt strongly this season, and the coach acknowledged that replacing a player of his quality is difficult. "To replace Cole is difficult as probably one of the best in the Premier League. He is unique. We don't have another player like Cole," Maresca concluded. Chelsea will aim to maintain their momentum this weekend, with assistant coaches taking charge from the technical area as Maresca serves his ban.—Agency

Teen Sensation George Liddard Becomes Youngest British and Commonwealth Middleweight Champion



LONDON: Unbeaten George Liddard made history by becoming the youngest British and Commonwealth middleweight champion after a dominant victory over Kieron Conway here at York Hall. In the ninth minute in Bethnal Green, the 23-year-old from Billericay, Essex, had the reigning champion down with a straight right hand that landed flush on the chin. In the tenth minute, Conway was knocked down by another right cross, but his corner threw up the towel to spare him more damage. The victory improved Liddard's record to 13-0 while Conway, suffered the fourth defeat of his 28-fight career. Reflecting on his triumph, Liddard claimed his temperament in the bout took his critics by surprise, while describing his feelings as a 'kid at Christmas'. "I feel on top of the world - I feel like a kid at Christmas, a kid in a candy shop, but my candy is belts," Liddard said. "I think everyone was shocked how cool, calm and confident I was coming into this fight - people thought the occasion would get the better of me, people thought it would be a step too soon, but I knew this was my time." Liddard then credited his mindset to test himself against the 'best' upon becoming the youngest-ever British and Commonwealth middleweight champion. Everyone thinks you're delusional until you go and do it.—Agency

Joel Embiid Dominates on Return as 76ers Demolish Timberwolves



Former NBA Most Valuable Player Joel Embiid made a groundbreaking return from injury in the Philadelphia 76ers' final exhibition game, leading them to a 126-110 victory over Minnesota Timberwolves here at the Wells Fargo Center. Embiid contributed 14 points, eight assists, and seven rebounds in just 19 minutes of play. The 31-year-old centre has been limited to only 19 games this season and 39 in the 2023-24 campaign due to knee injuries. His last appearance was on February 22, following which, he underwent arthroscopic surgery on his left knee in April. Selected third overall in the 2014 NBA Draft, Embiid missed his first two seasons due to injuries. Since then, he has become a seven-time All-Star, named to the All-NBA First Team and won MVP honours in 2022-23, when he led the league with 33.1 points per game, along with averages of 10.2 rebounds and 4.2 assists across 66 games. Overall, in his illustrious career, Embiid holds averages of 27.7 points, 11.0 rebounds, 3.7 assists, and 1.6 blocks per game. The Sixers are still awaiting the return of Paul George (knee) and Jared McCain (knee, thumb), who are not expected to be ready for the season opener on Wednesday against the Boston Celtics. Philadelphia, frequently short-handed last season, finished with a 24-58 record, down sharply from their 47-35 finish in 2023-24 and back-to-back 50-win seasons two years prior. They missed the playoffs for the first time in eight years. The Philadelphia 76ers will next play against the Boston Celtics on October 23rd.—Agency



Selena Gomez Fires Back After Hailey Bieber's Latest Comparison Jab



Selena Gomez has responded to Hailey Bieber's apparent dig at her in a now-deleted Instagram post. On Saturday, October 18, Selena took to Instagram Stories to hit back at Hailey's comments from a recent WSJ interview. The Wolves hitmaker told her fans to leave Hailey alone, adding, "She can say whatever she wants. Doesn't affect my life whatsoever. It's just about relevance not intelligence. Be kind. All brands inspire me." Selena Gomez responds to Hailey Bieber's comparison dig "There is room for everyone. And hopefully we can all stop," she added. In her WSJ interview, the model called constant comparisons between her brand, Rhode Beauty, and Selena's Rare Beauty brand "annoying." "It's always annoying being pitted against other people. I didn't ask for that. When people want to see you a certain way and they've made up a story about you in their minds, it's not up to you to change that," she remarked.

Friends Urge Jessica Simpson to Slow Down Amid Intense Dating Comeback



Jessica Simpson is reportedly looking for a new beau. However, her friends think she might be trying too hard. According to RadarOnline.com, the 1 Wanna Love You Forever singer has been "putting herself out there to a nauseating degree," in hopes of finding a new romance. "Jessica's been putting herself out there to a nauseating degree, fan-girling over guys she'd like to date and dropping names like it was an invitation," an insider spilled. "But friends feel she's coming across as too needy and should tone it down." The source added that Simpson has been "throwing herself at these guys and not apologizing for it," noting that she feels confident in what she brings to the table "her looks and wealth." Speaking to reporters at the MTV Video Music Awards in Elmont, N.Y., the 44-year-old star even revealed she has several crushes. "There's a lot of people who are sexy! I'm single, so everybody is sexy right now," she said with a laugh. "There's a lot of hotties. There's a lot of cute guys out there."

Insider Reveals Demi Moore Hesitant to Risk Career Over Controversial Move



Demi Moore is said to have shifted her complete focus to her acting career. For those unaware, after the 62-year-old American actress' split from her third husband, Ashton Kutcher, in 2011, she has devoted herself to the world of entertainment and has been uncertain about starting a romantic relationship ever since. In 2013, Moore was rumored to have a relationship with Harry Morton and Dead Sara later that year. After ten years, she and Daniel Humm, a chef by profession, got along only really recovered but ended up splitting up after a year. An insider told Radar Online that despite having a well-established career, the Indecent Proposal star, one of the most popular single women in Hollywood, has been saying no to new relationships, as she does not want to deviate from work. The source said, "Demi has a bad habit of putting her entire life, her entire identity on hold when she gets in a new relationship." "Her relationship with Ashton hijacked her career, and she's only really recovered from it professionally in the last year or so."

Kids' Corner

Name: Asra Fatima Aqeel Abbasi

Location: Larkana

About Me: I love my mama and papa up to the Moon and back!

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

THE HEARTLAND



Sindh Home Minister Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar Offers Condolences in Moro

By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: Provincial Home Minister Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar offered condolence with PPP Moro President and Lanjar House Coordinator Advocate Dost Ali Solangi and Sajjan Solangi over the sad demise of their parents. The gathering included Anti-Corruption Director Tariq Ali Solangi, SSP Nausheero Feroze Mir Ruhail Khan Khoso,



officers, respected personalities, PPP leaders, workers, and citizens who joined to pay their respects and show solidarity with the bereaved family.

PPP Shahdadpur Pays Glowing Tribute to Karsaz Martyrs

By Sajjan Jani

SHAHDADPUR: Pakistan People's Party Taluka and City Shahdadpur organized Quran Khwani and a tribute gathering at Thahim House in memory of Karsaz martyrs. Hosted by MPA Shahid Abdul Salam Thahim and Raees Zulfikar Zardari, the event saw participation from



PPP wings and local leaders. Speakers hailed the martyrs as heroes and reaffirmed commitment to Shaheed Murtaza Benazir Bhutto's democratic mission.

MNA Sadiq Ali Memon Leads Tributes to Karsaz Martyrs in Thatta

By Mohammad Khan Memon

THATTA: On October 18th, a ceremony was held at the residence of PPP Thatta District President and MNA Sadiq Ali Memon to honor the martyrs of the Karsaz tragedy. The event included Quran recitation and prayers for the martyrs' eternal peace. Attendees included PPP leaders such as General Secretary Imtiaz Qureshi, former MPA Ghulam Qadir Palijo, and



district officials. Sadiq Ali Memon praised the sacrifices of the martyrs, emphasizing their role in ending dictatorship and establishing democracy in Pakistan.

Street Vendor Robbed at Gunpoint in Maqsoodo Rind, Demands Justice

By Ayaz Latif Rind

MAQSOODO RIND: A poor banana vendor, Aslam Punjabi, was looted at gunpoint near Sakhi Sultan Faqir graveyard by three armed robbers. They snatched Rs



12,000 cash, a mobile phone, and other valuables. Speaking to media at National Press Club Maqsoodo Rind, the victim appealed to IG Sindh and SSP Sanghar to recover his belongings and arrest the culprits.

Revenue Irregularities Alleged in Mirpurkhas Land Records

By Narain Das

MIRPURKHAS: Citizens affected by alleged tampering in revenue records held a press conference, expressing concern over changes in land ownership documents that have reportedly deprived rightful heirs of their properties. Farooq Leghari, Sarmad Narojo, and Ehtesham-ul-Haq claimed that fake entries and manipulated registries dating back to 2024 were made involving valuable properties. They named some



former and current officials as being involved or negligent. The speakers urged authorities, including the Chief

of Army Staff, to take notice as being involved or negligent. The speakers urged authorities, including the Chief

Severe Injured In Lanjwani Community Clash Near Samaro

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: Near village Samar Khan Lanjwani, a violent clash erupted between two factions of the Lanjwani community, resulting

in serious injuries to a community member. 42-year-old Mumtaz, son of Mir Muhammad Lanjwani, was severely beaten with sticks and knives. He was rushed to the Tehsil Hospital

Samaro by relatives, where he received treatment and was admitted. The incident has been reported at Samaro police station, with land disputes cited as the cause of the conflict.

Youth Commits Suicide in Kot Ghulam Muhammad

By Zohaib Ali Baloch

KOT GHULAM MUHAMMAD: In Kot Ghulam Muhammad, a 22-year-old youth, Tirit, son of Shagan

Kohli, committed suicide by hanging himself from a mango tree in a garden after being threatened by his father. Upon notification, police took the body to Taluka Hospital for legal formalities. The body was later handed over to heirs. The incident has plunged the family into mourning, turning a house of celebration into one of grief.

Diwali Festivities Illuminate TMK, Spreading Joy and Harmony

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: The Hindu community celebrated Diwali with great enthusiasm at the local hall in Tando Muhammad Khan, featuring tableaux, songs, and fireworks. Deputy Speaker Naveed Anthony and other

leaders praised the festival's message of love and unity among all religions. Speakers emphasized Diwali as a symbol of peace and humanity, with the PPP highlighting its commitment to secularism and harmony. The event ended with cake cutting and vibrant celebrations.

Public Alarm as Sealed Fireworks Warehouse Mysteriously Reopens in Kunri

KUNRI: Residents of which does not have the required licenses or approvals, was initially closed following safety concerns raised by the community. The materials are reportedly intended for Diwali celebrations. Hindu community leaders emphasized that fireworks are not essential for the festival and urged caution. Locals kindly request authorities to take necessary steps to ensure everyone's safety and peace of mind during the festive season.—RT

The warehouse, leaders

Kakar Youth Shines in CSS 2024, Appointed Assistant Collector in Pakistan Customs

By ZA Babar

KAKAR: Mir Gulzar Birhamani from Kakar village has successfully passed the prestigious CSS 2024 exam and secured a position as Assistant Collector in Pakistan Customs. With a strong educational back-



ground and years of dedication, he has previously served in various government roles. His achievement has brought pride to his village and Sindh. Locals celebrated his success, urging youth to work hard and honor their communities.



OFFICE OF THE PROJECT DIRECTOR (PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT) PRISONS DEPARTMENT SINDH CAMP OFFICE AT CENTRAL PRISON, KARACHI

SEALED NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Sealed tender is invited as per S.P.P Rules 2010 (Amended up-to-date), from the contractors / companies / firms / interested persons on Standard Bidding Documents (SBDs), with relevant category C6 or above, as well as relevant Specialized Code (s) for procurement of the following works.

S.#	Name of Work	Tender Fee	Completion period	Bid Security	Date of Issue	Date of Submission of Bids	1st Attempt date of opening of bids	2nd Attempt (in case of un-responded tender) opening of Bids
	M&R: to Central Prison & C.F Karachi (Residents) (Repair of quarters & Staff quarters)	3000	06-Months	5%	23-10-2025 to 24-11-2025 (During office time)	25-11-2025 up-to 09.15 AM	25-11-2025 up-to 10.15 AM	11-12-2025 up-to 10.15 AM
	M&R: to District Prison & C.F Karachi (C.M.O Office, Armory & E-Courts)	3000	06-Months	5%				
	M&R: to District Prison & C.F. Malir Karachi (Repair of officers and staff quarters)	3000	06-Months	5%				

2 Eligibility/Mandatory.

- Valid Registration Certificate up-to June -2026 and onwards with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant category and specialized codes as mentioned against each work.
- Experience in similar nature of work (s) executed during the last five years:
 - At least one similar nature of work having minimum cost 80% of the estimated cost of the work.
 - At least two similar nature works each having minimum cost 50% of the estimated cost.
- Bio data of Engineering and Technical staff working with the firm.
- Average Annual Financial Turnover not less than equivalent cost of the scheme / project during last five years. (Turnover will be evaluated from annual returns and Audit Reports.
- Annual Audit Reports of last five years i.e., 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 from (ICAP) registered audit firm. Audit report issued other than (ICAP) registered audit firms will not be accepted.
- List of Machinery involved in Prison Department Construction and equipment available with documentary evidence its ownership / rented.
- At least 20% or more annual average balance is required in the last five years i.e., 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 to the estimated cost of work applied. Fresh Bank Certificate (in original) must be attached stating annual average balance of given period.
- Bank Statement must be provided for the last five years i.e., 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 starting from 1st July to 30th June for each year separately.
- Registration with Income Tax Department NTN certificates with activate status with Federal Board of Revenue.
- Annual Income Tax returns of last five years i.e., 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25
- Registration Certificate of Sindh Revenue Board Government of Sindh (SRB) certificate (with Active Status).
- Each page of the technical proposal must be numbered and attested by the owner of firm/company alongwith its stamp.
- Evaluation Criteria, sub-criteria, for the evaluation of Full Technical Proposals is based on Yes / No OR Pass/Fail if a bidder fails to obtain yes or pass in any criteria or sub-criteria then he/she shall not be qualified.

3 Method of Procurement (Single Stage - Two Envelopes)

4 Bidding/Tender Documents.

- Contract documents and other terms and conditions can be seen or downloaded from the official website of SPRA i.e., "https://pms.prasindh.gov.pk". The Bid Security mentioned above in the shape of Call Deposit/Pay order/Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank of Pakistan in favour of the Project Director, (PMU) Prison Department, Sindh, Karachi on account of (Name of firm) should be attached with the Technical Bid / Tenders, otherwise such tenders will not be entertained / accepted. In case of any unforeseen situation resulting in closure of office on the date of opening or if Government declares Holiday the tender shall be submitted / opened on the next working day, un-accompanied of the Bid Security tender will not be considered in the competition.
- The tender will be opened in the presence of the Procurement Committee / participating contractors/firms and their authorized representatives, who may wish to be present.
- Bid shall comprise Single Package containing two separate envelopes. Each envelope contain separately the Financial Proposal and the Technical Proposal Envelop shall be marked technical proposal and Financial Proposal in bold and legible letters to avoid confusion.
- TECHNICAL PROPOSAL opened, shall be evaluated for technical qualification of the firms. Financial bids/proposals of the technically qualified firms shall be opened on the date and time that will be communicated in writing to all the qualified bidders / firms in advance. Financial bids/proposals of technically non responsive shall be returned to the respective bidders un-opened.
- The bid security of the technically responsive bidders but reject due to higher rate will be returned back after the issuance of work order to the successful bidder.
- In case of any member of procurement committee happens to be out of Head Quarter on the date of opening bids will be submitted and opened on next working day on same schedule.
- Joint venture will not be allowed.
- Fresh affidavit with effect that all the documents/ particulars/ machinery information furnished are true and correct. In case of Bogus / Tempered or false information / certificates provided by the company / firm shall be liable to be black listed at any stage.
- Details of owner along with CNIC on Judicial Stamp paper (in original), a representative should have authority on Judicial Stamp Paper from owner (in original). Authority other than Judicial Stamp paper will not be accepted and such tender will not be entertained.
- In case of Firm, giving full particulars of Directors / Proprietors or other connected along with Power of Attorney. In case opening sole proprietors such undertaking on fresh Affidavit be furnished.
- Undertaking on stamp paper (in original) that firm is not involved in any kind of litigation with, any departmental rift, abandoned or unnecessary delay in completion of any work.
- Undertaking on fresh affidavit (in-original) that the firm / company is not currently blacklisted by any of the Government Department whether Federal or Provincial.
- The Tenders should be submitted along with the above required documentation / information if any of such required documents / information lacking then the tender will not be considered by the procuring committee and no such documents will be accepted after dropping date and time.

Place of submission, inquiries and opening will be at following place & contact.

- Address: Camp office of the undersigned situated in the premises of Central Prison, Karachi.

Terms & Conditions

- Under following conditions bid will be rejected: -
- No conditional electronic and telegraphic bids / Tenders shall be accepted.
- Bids not accompanied by bid security of required amount and manner.
- Bids received after specified date and time.
- Bid Validity period 90- days.

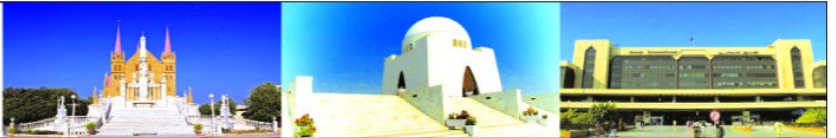
INF-KRY No.3356/25

WORK FOR SINDH



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PRISONS DEPARTMENT SINDH
KARACHI

METRO KARACHI



Murad Greenlights Mini Fish Harbours at Keti Bunder and Shah Bunder to Boost Coastal Economy

By Rahib Gaho

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has directed the Livestock and Fisheries Department to develop proposals for establishing Mini Fish Harbours at Keti Bunder (District Thatta) and Shah Bunder (District Sujawal) to promote small-scale fisheries, create jobs, and reduce congestion at Karachi Fish Harbour.

The two harbours, estimated to cost Rs 1.35 billion with a three-year implemen-



tation period, will be financed through provincial and foreign assistance. During a meeting with Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Mohammad Ali Malkani and Secretary Di-

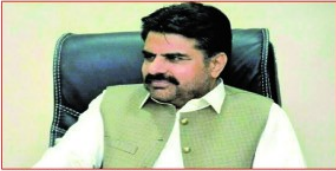
Kazim Jatoi, Murad Shah said that the Karachi Fish Harbour has reached capacity, causing congestion and heavy post-harvest losses.

The proposed mini harbours will feature auction halls, storage, docking, and eco-friendly waste management systems. Shah said the initiative fulfills Shaheed Benazir Bhutto's vision of developing Keti Bunder as a new port and supports Sindh's sustainable coastal development goals.

Nasir Shah Says PPP Backing Federal Government for Stability, Not Power Politics

KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Local Government and Town Planning Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) extended support to the federal government not for personal or political interests, but for the stability of Pakistan, its people, and democracy.

Speaking to the media after offering condolences at the residence of the late Agha Siraj Durrani, Shah said that without the PPP's support, the country could have faced new elections and another political crisis.



"The PPP has always stood by democracy, as even a weak democracy is better than dictatorship," he stated.

He added that despite being an ally during the PDM government, several parties — including PML-

N, JUI-F, JDA, and MQM — formed alliances against the PPP ahead of elections. However, the people of Sindh gave a clear mandate to the PPP, reaffirming their trust in the party's leadership and democratic vision.—RT

Two Lose Lives in Separate Truck-Motorcycle Collisions Across Karachi

KARACHI: Two people were killed and two others injured in separate road accidents involving trucks and motorcycles in different areas of Karachi on Saturday.

According to police, the first incident occurred near Liaquatabad No. 10, where a speeding truck hit a motorcycle, killing one person

on the spot. Enraged citizens set the truck on fire following the accident, while police detained the driver.

In another incident near Malir's Model Colony, a truck collided with a motorcycle, leaving one person dead and two others injured. Eyewitnesses said angry residents pelted the

truck with stones, shattering its windows, while the driver managed to flee the scene.

Rescue teams shifted the injured to a nearby hospital, and police have launched investigations into both accidents. Authorities urged motorists to follow traffic regulations to prevent such tragic incidents.—RT/Agency

Afaq Ahmed Declares Karachi Belongs to Its People, Not Power Brokers

KARACHI: Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM-H) Chairman Afaq Ahmed has said that the community's commitment to Pakistan dates back to before its creation, declaring, "We were Pakistanis even before we came to Pakistan. We used to say, 'Hindustan will be divided, and Pakistan will

be created,' and today, we remain determined to fight for the rights of our city."

Addressing a gathering, Afaq Ahmed said that Mohajirs will no longer live like strangers in their own city. Emphasizing the importance of identity, he remarked, "Jobs are important, but identity holds even greater meaning."

He reaffirmed his party's resolve to continue struggling for the political, social, and economic rights of Karachi's residents, calling for justice, fair representation, and recognition of the sacrifices made by the community for Pakistan's creation and progress.—RT/Agency

Bilawal Says He'll Welcome PM's Support for Further Development Work in Sindh

KARACHI: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Saturday said that the People's Party raises its objections over issues with the federal government, talking to media Bilawal Bhutto said that the issues of Karachi's development schemes and the water issue should be resolved according to the constitution and the 18th Amendment.



"We will be pleased if the prime minister wants further work in Sindh," he said. "The party's central executive

committee meeting will discuss the political situation. I have met the prime minister and will also share it in the meeting," Bilawal said.

Talking on Gaza issue, Pakistan's former foreign minister said that the territory was facing genocide for last two years, the progress that happens recently, has been a major success," he added.—RT

Bilawal Honors Karsaz Martyrs, Vows to Uphold Shaheed Benazir's Unfinished Democratic Struggle



KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has said that October 18, 2007, is eternally etched into the nation's soul. Paying tribute to the martyrs of the Karsaz tragedy on its 18th anniversary, Bilawal said it was the day when over three million people gave a historic welcome to Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto upon her return to Pakistan.

He recalled that 180 brave party workers sacrificed their lives for the dream of a democratic Pakistan when dictatorship and terrorism joined hands to attack Benazir Bhutto's caravan. Bilawal stated that those who targeted her rally sought to extinguish the light of democracy, but the blood of the martyrs only made it shine brighter.

He reaffirmed that the PPP remains committed to carrying forward the mission of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and the martyrs of Karsaz, pledging to uphold democracy and people's empowerment.—RT

Haleem Adil Slams 'Form-47 Regimes' for Crushing Economy and Fueling Inflation



KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Sindh President Haleem Adil Sheikh has voiced strong concern over the record-breaking inflation across the country, accusing what he termed "Form-47 installed governments" of driving Pakistan into a severe economic crisis.

In a press statement issued on October 18, for families.—RT/Agency

Korangi Shootout Leaves One Suspect Dead in Alleged Police Encounter

KARACHI: A suspected robber was killed in an alleged police encounter in the Korangi area of Karachi, officials said on Saturday.

According to police, the deceased suspect has been identified as Badar Aslam, who was wanted in more than 13 criminal cases registered at various police stations across the city. Law enforcement authorities said the encounter took place during a routine patrol when the suspects opened fire on the police team.

In retaliation, police returned fire, resulting in the death of one suspect, while his accomplice managed to escape from the scene. A search operation has been launched to apprehend the fleeing suspect. Police recovered weapons and other items from the possession of the slain suspect and shifted the body to a nearby hospital for medico-legal formalities. Further investigations are underway.—RT/Agency

Karachi Scorches at 39°C as Relentless Heatwave Shows No Signs of Easing

KARACHI: The city is experiencing very warm and sunny conditions, with temperatures soaring to 39°C on Saturday. According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), the maximum temperature is expected to reach 38°C, while the minimum will drop to around 22°C overnight.

The RealFeel temperature also stands at 38°C, offering little comfort even in shaded areas where it drops slightly to 36°C. Light westerly winds blowing at 9 km/h and a high UV Index of 6.0 are intensifying the heat, making daytime conditions particularly oppressive.

Meteorologists have warned that the current heatwave pattern is likely to persist for the next several days, urging citizens to stay hydrated, avoid direct sunlight during peak hours, and take necessary precautions against heat-related illnesses.—RT/Agency

Saeed Ghani Links Terrorism Surge to Musharraf Era, Pays Tribute to Karsaz Martyrs

By Rahib Gaho

KARACHI: Sindh Labour Minister and PPP Karachi President Saeed Ghani has said that terrorism in Pakistan originated during the regime of former military ruler General (Retd) Pervez Musharraf. Speaking to the media after offering fataha and laying floral wreaths at the graves of seven martyrs of the 18th October Karsaz tragedy, Ghani said that "even at that time, hoisting the national flag in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was considered a crime."

He recalled that during the Karsaz tragedy, PPP



workers had bravely protected Benazir Bhutto, with hundreds sacrificing their lives. Ghani also revealed that during the incident, police officials had fled, and evidence from the blast site was destroyed.

The minister demanded a strong operation against

terrorism, urging Afghanistan to stop the use of its soil for militancy. He also criticised the PIDCL's formation, calling it "another East India Company," and condemned discrimination against Sindh in the federal budget.

Police Heroes Recognized for Gunning Down Adnan Magsi's Killers in Daring Operation

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: A ceremony was held at Muhammad Ali Shah Auditorium, CPO Karachi, to honor Sindh Police officers who neutralized the killers of Adnan Magsi, a youth murdered during a car-snatching incident in Sachal. IG Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon awarded certificates and cash prizes to officers from Karachi East, Hyderabad, and Jamshoro for their swift



and coordinated action. The IG praised the operation as a model of professionalism, vowing to expand the Safe City Project across Sindh to further enhance public security.

Advocate Abdul Wahab Baloch Calls on Legal Fraternity to Restore Integrity and Ethical Standards

By Asif Qureshi

KARACHI: Senior Advocate Supreme Court, and candidate for Sindh Bar Council 2025-2030, Abdul Wahab Baloch, empha-

sized the importance of ethical conduct and the profession. He professional excellence highlighted that judiciary among lawyers. Speaking at a reception in Gulshan-e-Hadeed, he said lawyers must reflect on their behavior values.

Sindh Awami Sath to Lead Major Rally in Karachi Against Illegal Afghan Settlements

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: Sindh Awami Sath announced a protest rally from Safoora Chowranghi to East Press Club demanding the eviction of illegally residing Afghans. Chairman Mahar Dribai criticized the symbolic actions in Sindh while the federal government expels Afghans nationwide. The rally invites



all political, social, and patriotic individuals to cause.

PCML Defers 'Rights of Karachi March' Citing Heightened Security Threats

By Dildar Seelro

KARACHI: Pakistan Central Muslim League by Sindh President Karachi Bolega has postponed its Faisal Nadeem and Ahmed Nadeem Awan march will be announced soon.

They confirmed the situation. The announcement was made in Karachi and "Ab Central Muslim League by Sindh President Karachi Bolega has postponed its Faisal Nadeem and Ahmed Nadeem Awan march will be announced soon.

REGIONAL TIMES

MONEY

Gold Prices Plunge by Rs10,600 per Tola, Markets Stunned by Sudden Drop

KARACHI: The price of gold in Pakistan fell significantly on Friday, dropping by Rs10,600 per tola. According to the All Pakistan Gems and Jewellers Association, the new price of gold now stands at Rs446,300 per tola, while the rate for 10 grams of gold has decreased by Rs9,088 to Rs382,630.



\$106 per ounce, bringing the global rate down to \$4,252 per ounce.

Market experts attributed the sharp decline to a stronger US dollar and easing global demand for the precious metal. Local traders anticipate that gold prices may continue to fluctuate in the coming days, influenced by international market trends and domestic currency movements.— Agency

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

—Albert Einstein

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SUNDAY OCTOBER 19 2025

Trump Declares Pakistan-Afghanistan Conflict 'Very Easy' to End, Claims He Can Solve It

US: US President Donald Trump said he has defused eight global conflicts in the past eight months, citing Pakistan-India and Gaza, and called the Pakistan-Afghanistan clashes "an easy one" to resolve during talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky at the White House.



"...although I do understand that Pakistan attacked, or there is an attack going on with Afghanistan. That's an easy one for me to solve if I have to solve it," the US president said. He said that while he was responsible for running the US, he truly enjoyed ending wars and bringing peace to conflict zones.

He said that while he was responsible for running the US, he truly enjoyed ending wars and bringing peace to conflict zones. "All of these wars had nothing to do with us, but I saved tens of millions of lives. The Prime Minister of Pakistan said I saved millions of lives in interceding on Pakistan, and you look at Pakistan and India as an example. That would have been a bad one, two nuclear nations, right?" he said.

"I've solved eight conflicts, including the Middle East. This [Ukraine-Russia] I thought would have been among the easiest [Russian President Vladimir] Putin mentioned yesterday — Armenia, you know, all of the different wars."

He said it was amazing, but the big one that he was surprised that we were able to settle was the Middle East.

Zelensky came to Washington seeking arms to bolster his country's forces in Ukraine's three-year-old conflict with Russia. However, Trump frequently highlighted his peace summit with Putin, which took place just weeks earlier, as he and Zelensky spoke with reporters.

That meeting hastily came together on Thursday, making clear that Trump remains intent on brokering a peace deal and taking the air out of Zelensky's pitch for the missiles. Before his private lunch meeting with Zelensky, Trump said the two leaders would discuss his call with Putin the previous day. He again reiterated his belief that his efforts merit the Nobel Peace Prize.—RT/Agency

Afghanistan has become India's proxy: Khawaja Asif

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif on Friday accused Afghanistan of becoming India's proxy saying that Afghanistan's Taliban government is "fighting a proxy war" on behalf of India.



In a post on social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter, Khawaja Asif launched a sharp attack on Kabul, saying all Afghans must return to their homeland and added that their land resources are for 250 million Pakistanis.

Khawaja Asif said India, Afghanistan and Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) were jointly "imposing terrorism on Pakistan." He lamented that elements who once sought refuge in Pakistan were now allegedly engaged in conspiracies against the country.

He said that Pakistan can no longer afford relations with Afghanistan as in the past and added that Islamabad's diplomatic and institutional efforts aimed at resolving the security problem had produced little positive response. He said that since the Taliban's takeover of Kabul in 2021, Pakistan's Foreign Minister visited Kabul four times, the Defence Minister and ISI Chief made two visits, the Special Representative for Afghanistan undertook five visits, the Foreign Secretary also visited five times, and the National Security Adviser went once. He revealed that the Joint Coordination Committee met eight times, 225 border flag meetings were held, and Pakistan issued \$36 protest notes and 13 demarches to Afghanistan. All these efforts produced no result.—RT/Agency

Trump Presses Pause on Ukraine Aid as Zelenskiy Seeks More Weapons in Washington Talks

US: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky came to the White House looking for weapons to keep fighting his country's war with Russia, but met an American president who appears more intent on brokering a peace deal than upgrading Ukraine's arsenal.



While US President Donald Trump did not rule out providing the long-range Tomahawk missiles Zelensky seeks, Trump appeared cool to the prospect as he looked ahead to a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Hungary in the coming weeks.

call the previous day between the Russian president and Trump, who has portrayed himself as a mediator between the warring forces despite the fact that Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022. "Get along a little" "I think President Zelensky wants it done, and I think President Putin wants it done. Now all they have to do is get along a little bit," Trump told reporters.

President Praises Muslim World League's Global Campaign Against Islamophobia



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari commended the Muslim World League's (MWL) efforts to counter extremism and Islamophobia and praised its focus on social welfare, women's empowerment, and education. He was talking to Secretary General of the Muslim World League and Chairman of the Organization of Muslim Scholars Dr. Muhammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, who called on him in Islamabad. The President regarded the International Conference on Girls' Education in Muslim Communities, hosted by MWL in Islamabad earlier this year, as an important step toward strengthening the intellectual and moral foundations of the Muslim Ummah. Referring to MWL's partnership with Pakistan, the President said the Secrat-

In Washington Talks, Aurangzeb Pushes Pakistan's Digital and Economic Vision Forward

WASHINGTON: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, held a series of meetings in Washington, DC, aimed at deepening economic cooperation and advancing Pakistan's digital and financial agenda.



The finance minister met World Bank President Ajay Banga on the sidelines of the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings in Washington DC, recalling the PM's UNGA engagement and reaffirming partnership.

He further sought additional support under the International Development Association (IDA) and discussed holistic reforms in the gas and power sectors for long-term sustainability and efficiency. Senator Aurangzeb met with Dr. Adnan Chulwani, Group CEO of Dubai Islamic Bank (DIB), and appreciated DIB's continued partnership as the leading global arranger of Pakistan's sovereign Sukuk. The finance minister highlighted the recent Staff Level Agreement (SLA) with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and ratings upgrades by international agencies as indicators of Pakistan's strengthening economic outlook.—RT/Agency

Israeli Forces Violate Ceasefire, Kill 11 Palestinians in Fresh Gaza Strikes

GAZA CITY: In yet another act of aggression, Israeli warplanes carried out an airstrike on Gaza, killing 11 members of the same Palestinian family, including seven children and three women, according to Arab media reports. The victims were targeted as they were returning home, in what Hamas has condemned as a blatant violation of the ceasefire agreement. The group stated that since the truce began, Israeli forces have killed at least 28 Palestinians through continued shelling and gunfire. The Arab media also reported that Israel has returned the bodies of 15 more Palestinians, bringing the total to 135. Medical professionals in Gaza allege that the bodies showed signs of torture and execution, with evidence of handcuffs, blindfolds, and gunshot wounds. Doctors further stated that the returned corpses indicated severe mistreatment of detainees, fueling international outrage over the treatment of Palestinian prisoners.—RT/Agency



Fire at Dhaka Airport Cargo Terminal Disrupts Flights, Forces Massive Delays



DHAKA: Flights out of Bangladesh's main airport were delayed or diverted on Saturday after a major fire broke out in the cargo terminal, officials said.

Thirty-six firefighting units are working to douse the flames, Talha Bin Zaim, an officer at the Fire Service and Civil Defence Media Cell, told Reuters.

Operations at Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport were suspended, airport official Masudul Hasan told reporters, adding all aircraft are safe.

There was no immediate information as to what may have caused the blaze. Both domestic and international flights were affected.

Pakistan Asks Qatar to Divert 2026 LNG Cargoes Amid Global Oversupply Concerns

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has urged Qatar to divert 24 of its contracted liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes to the international market in 2026, amid declining domestic demand and an oversupply of gas in the country. The News reported on Saturday.



The move comes as Pakistan's LNG infrastructure faces constraints, with storage and distribution capacities under strain due to lower-than-expected demand from the industrial and power sectors.

for the resale of excess cargoes, it offers little financial relief. Qatar retains any profit from international sales, while Pakistan must absorb any losses if the spot market price is lower than the contract rate.—RT/Agency

Pakistan, Russia Eye New Avenues for Cooperation in Tourism, Media, and Trade

ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Attaullah Tarar held a meeting with the Russian Ambassador to Pakistan, Albert Pyankov, to discuss a range of bilateral issues, including tourism, media cooperation, and the natural beauty of Pakistan's northern areas.



During the meeting, the two leaders discussed the potential for enhancing media and cultural collaboration between the two countries.

ditionally, an agreement to expand collaboration between state media of the two countries was also finalized. The discussion also focused on the tourism sector, with both parties expressing interest in promoting the natural beauty of northern Pakistan.—RT/Agency

Austria Clears Final Hurdle to Approve EU's Tough New Russia Sanctions

FRANKFURT/BRUSSELS: Austria said on Saturday that it would agree to the European Union's latest sanctions package against Russia, in an about-face of its earlier stance and removing a key hurdle ahead of a vote early next week.



EU foreign ministers are due to convene on Monday in Luxembourg when they hope to finalise the bloc's 19th sanctions package against Moscow for its invasion of Ukraine. Reuters reported earlier this month the passage of the package was deadlocked because Austria was demanding that the EU unfreeze some Russian assets to compensate Austria's Raiffeisen Bank International for penalties imposed by Russia. But other EU governments would not go along. The package needs unanimous support from the EU's 27 member states. "Austria supports continued pressure on Russia and will approve the 19th package of sanctions on Monday," the country's foreign ministry said in a statement. The sanctions package includes an array of energy and financial measures, including a ban on Russian liquefied natural gas from January 1, 2027, bringing forward the date from January 1, 2028.—RT/Agency

Trump Team Considers Possible Kim Jong Un Meeting During Upcoming Asia Trip



WASHINGTON: Trump administration officials are privately discussing a potential meeting between Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during the US president's upcoming Asia visit, on Saturday, citing sources familiar with the matter. Officials have not begun logistical arrangements or direct communications with Pyongyang, and prior outreach from Trump earlier this year was reportedly rejected by North Korea, the report added. China, North Korea, and the US are working to strengthen strategic cooperation, KCNA says. In August, Trump expressed interest in meeting the North Korean leader after hosting South Korean President Lee Jae Myung at the White House for the first time.—RT/Agency

Hamas Returns Another Hostage Body, Vows to Hand Over Remaining Captives Soon

HAMAS: Hamas handed over to Israel the remains of one more hostage on Friday night, after insisting it was committed to returning all the dead captives still unaccounted for under Gaza's ruins after two years of war.



"Israel received, via the Red Cross, the coffin of a deceased hostage who was returned" to its security forces in Gaza and would be identified at a medical analysis center in Israel, the prime minister's office said in a statement. For the latest updates on the Israel-Palestine conflict, visit our dedicated page Under a ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas spearheaded by US President Donald Trump, the Palestinian dates on the Israel-Palestine conflict, visit our dedicated page Under a ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas spearheaded by US President Donald Trump, the Palestinian remains of nine out of 28 known deceased ones, not counting the remains handed.—RT/Agency