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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Pakistan Navy Chief Vows to Guard Maritime Borders 'Inch by Inch'

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf has affirmed that the Pakistan Navy stood ready to defend the country's maritime frontiers, the Inter-Services Public Relations said on Saturday.

He made these comments during his visit to forward posts in the Creeks Area to review operational preparedness and combat readiness, it added.

"We know how to defend our sovereignty and every inch of our Maritime frontiers from Sir Creek to Jiwani", Admiral Ashraf said.

The naval chief emphasised the importance of Sea Lines of Communication (SLOCs) and maritime security, saying that they were not only a military ne-



cessity but also a cornerstone of Pakistan's sovereignty and a key pillar of economic prosperity and stability.

Admiral Ashraf described Pakistan Navy as the "vanguard of peace and stability in the Indian Ocean Region" and a significant stakeholder in regional maritime security. He affirmed that the navy's defence capabilities stood strong "from the shores to the sea". During his visit, three 2400 TD hovercrafts were also inducted into the Pak Marines, marking another significant stride in modernising the Pakistan Navy's operational capabilities. The state-of-the-art hovercrafts are capable of simultaneously operating over a variety of surfaces, including shallow waters, sand dunes, marshy and boggy littoral zones.—RT/Agency

PM Shehbaz Seeks 'Tough Answers' on Resurgence of Terrorism Post-2018 Peace Gains

ISLAMABAD: Terrorism is re-emerging in Balochistan and other regions, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Saturday, urging a hard look at "the reasons that led to unrest."

Addressing participants of 'Balochistan Workshop', he said that while terrorism had been completely eradicated in 2018, it was once again raising its head. "Security forces are sacrificing their lives every day for peace," he said.

He said that the people of Balochistan are "our brothers" and must be equal partners in the country's develop-



ment. The prime minister said that Balochistan had its own history, culture and was blessed with immense natural resources worth trillions of dollars. These huge national resources of wealth were still buried under heavy mountains, and unfortunately, what

happened in the last few years was a matter of self-inspection, he added. During the creation of Pakistan, the leaders and tribal leaders of Balochistan had gathered in Quetta and decided to join Pakistan, he said, adding Balochistan always took pride in its values

and culture, the Baloch people had always been very generous and promoting those segments of societies who had either migrated to the province or living there for ages, including Punjabi migrants and other tribes.

The prime minister said that they had been living in Balochistan with complete harmony and peace for a long time.

He further observed that nature had uniquely designed the province; small and sporadic populations, where road infrastructure was a big challenge, and without a proper road network, commuting

was a difficult task.

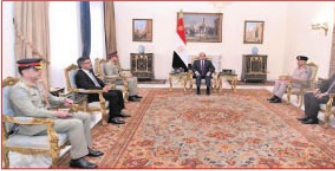
The prime minister informed that a road that ran from Karachi to Chaman was locally called a 'bloody road' by the residents of the province due to frequent traffic collisions and casualties.

"To convert this bloody road into a peaceful avenue", he said, Rs350 billion was estimated, adding the petrol prices were announced every fortnightly, and on one occasion, when the prices were declined, they had decided to divert this amount of up to Rs180 billion annually, for the construction of this road.—RT/Agency

Egyptian President Praises Pakistan's Role in Strengthening Muslim Unity During Meeting with COAS

ISLAMABAD: Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi met Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir and praised Pakistan's "positive and proactive contributions" to the Muslim world, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Saturday.

During the meeting, held at Ithadiah Presidential Palace in Cairo, both leaders reaffirmed the longstanding friendship between Pakistan and Egypt, expressing their commitment to strengthen bilateral relations across various fields, including socio-economic cooperation, technology, and security, as per the military's media wing.



It said Field Marshal Munir lauded Egypt's leadership for its role in maintaining peace and stability in the region, while President el-Sisi underlined the importance of enhanced coordination on matters of mutual strategic interest and fostering stronger people-to-people ties.

The meeting concluded on a warm note, with both sides expressing confidence that sustained engagement and cooperation would contribute significantly to regional peace and prosperity.

Both leaders reaffirm commitment to deepen Pakistan-Egypt cooperation in security, economic and strategic domains, the military's media wing added.—RT/Agency

Zardari Reportedly Clears PPP to Launch No-Confidence Move Against AJK PM

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has announced forming its own government in Azad Jammu and Kashmir after President Asif Ali Zardari greenlighted a no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq. Sources told Geo News that President Zardari made the decision while chairing a key meeting of the PPP AJK parliamentary party in Islamabad, which was also attended by party chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, Faryal Talpur, Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, and Qamar Zaman Kaira. The president will nominate for the AJK premiership after consultations, sources added. They confirmed that Bilawal, who had also



served as the country's foreign minister, would formally announce government formation on Monday. The decision to bring a no-confidence motion came during the PPP's AJK parliamentary committee meeting on government formation in AJK. A separate session chaired by Bilawal Bhutto, earlier in the day, had endorsed an in-house change, with party leaders agreeing to move a no-confidence motion against the incumbent AJK premier. Earlier, PPP leader Kaira — while speaking to journalists outside Zardari House — said that while the situation in AJK was "worrying for all parties," the final decision would be made after consultation with President Zardari.—RT/Agency

Islamabad-Kabul Dialogue Resumes in Istanbul Amid Regional Tensions

ISTANBUL: The second round of talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan began in Istanbul on Saturday, as Islamabad seeks a mechanism to address terrorism emanating from Afghan soil, sources said.

The Istanbul dialogues follow the first round of Pakistan-Afghanistan talks — mediated by Qatar and Turkey — held in Doha on October 19, in which a ceasefire was agreed, but the border trade remains suspended.

The Afghan delegation is being led by Deputy Interior Minister Rahmatullah Mujib.

During his weekly press briefing, Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Hussain



Andrabi said that Pakistan looks forward to the establishment of a concrete and verifiable monitoring mechanism in the Istanbul talks to address the menace of terrorism emanating from Afghan soil towards Islamabad. "As a responsible state committed to regional peace and stability, Pakistan does not seek escalation but urges the Afghan Taliban authorities to honour their commitment to the international community and address Pakistan's legitimate security concerns by taking verifiable action against terrorist entities, including the FAK/TTP and FAH/BLA," he added.—RT/Agency

Dostarm-V: Pakistan, Kazakhstan Wrap Up High-Intensity Counter-Terror Drills in Cherat



RAWALPINDI: The closing ceremony of the Pakistan-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise Dostarm-V took place in Cherat on Saturday, marking the end of a two-week counter-terrorism training between the armies of the two nations. The exercise, which began on 14 October, was designed to enhance cooperation and refine operational tactics in the fight against terrorism.

Combat teams from the Pakistan Army's Special Services Group (SSG) and the Kazakhstan Special Forces participated in the joint exercise, focusing on modern counter-terrorism drills, operational planning, and tactical response in simulated environments.—RT/Agency

Balochistan's Power-Sharing Deal: PML-N to Take Over After 2.5 Years

BALUCHISTAN: Balochistan Minister Abdul Rehman Khetran confirmed that under an agreement between PPP and PML-N, the PML-N will assume the chief minister's position after two and a half years. The coalition deal, made post-elections, also includes the tenure of Senate and assembly speakers. Khetran clarified, however, that this arrangement does not guarantee the PPP chairman's ascension to prime minister in return.—RT/Agency

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM MEASLES AND RUBELLA

17th to 29th November 2025

Vaccinate your children aged 6 months to 5 years against measles and rubella to keep them protected from these diseases.

For more information, contact: **HELPLINE 1166** Sehat Tahaffuz (Health Protection)

Take your children to the nearest health centers, outreach vaccination centers, or schools to get them vaccinated with the protective Measles and Rubella vaccine free of cost.

Under the Sindh Immunization and Epidemics Control Act 2023, child immunization is mandatory. Refusal or obstruction is punishable under Section 9.

Children under 5 years of age will also receive polio drops in certain districts.

REGIONAL TIMES

NATIONAL

CM Maryam Greenlights Early Takeoff for ‘Air Punjab’; Reviews Murree Glass Train Vision

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif directed officials to make Air Punjab operational without delay, emphasizing completion of the project's first phase and leasing of modern, comfortable aircraft. Chairing a meeting in Lahore, she approved the initial Lahore-Islamabad route for the airline, aimed



at providing affordable and reliable intercity air travel. The meeting also

reviewed the Murree Glass Train Project, with instructions for timely execution. Separately, the Punjab government introduced Pakistan's first airlift drone for flood rescue operations. Successfully tested in Lahore, the drone can carry up to 200 kg, with 10 more units planned for procurement.—RT/Agency

Punjab Extends Section 144 Till Nov 1 Citing Heightened Security Alerts

LAHORE: The Punjab government has extended the enforcement of Section 144 across the province until November 1 to maintain public order. A Home Department notification stated the decision followed recommendations from the Cabinet's Standing Committee on Law and Order after reviewing fresh threat assessments by security agencies.



The ban continues on provocative gatherings, rallies, use of loudspeakers, carrying of weapons, and distribution of provocative material. Initially imposed on October 8, the order has been extended twice.—RT/Agency

METRO KARACHI

World Polio Day: ‘One Drop Can Save a Life’ Campaign Gains Urgency

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: Every year, October 24th marks World Polio Day, a global event dedicated to raising awareness about the crippling and life-threatening disease. On this day, health organizations, including the Bahar Foundation, come together to educate the public and encourage parents to protect their children by ensuring they receive the vital polio drops. At My Mother Public Library, Dhani Bakhsh Brohi Village, Muhammad Sachal Waddo, Chairman of the Bahar Foundation, led an



impactful awareness program aimed at spreading knowledge about polio's dangers and the simple solution—two drops that can protect every child for life. The Bahar Foundation continues to spearhead various initiatives to combat polio, working relentlessly to raise health awareness and to play a crucial role in eradicating the disease. Polio is a deadly virus that targets the nerves of children under five, and in its most severe form, it can result in permanent disability or even death. However, the good news is that polio is preventable.

LADIESFUND Leads Powerful Breast Cancer Awareness Roundtable, Calls for Early Screening Culture



KARACHI: LADIESFUND, in partnership with Mrs. Samina Alvi's Breast Cancer Task Force, hosted the 6th Breast Cancer Roundtable, highlighting women's health and empowerment. The event gathered healthcare professionals, breast

cancer survivors, and influential personalities to advocate for early detection and raise awareness. Chairperson Simi Kamil emphasized community engagement, while Mrs. Samina Alvi praised the initiative's impact. The event also launched

the LADIESFUND Breast Cancer Endowment Fund, raising PKR 9 million for a Women's Center. Survivors shared their powerful stories, marking the day as a pivotal moment in the fight against breast cancer in Pakistan.—RT

Race for KU Seats: 7,536 Students Battle for Just 1,347 Spots in Admissions Test

KARACHI: The University of Karachi held its entry test for the 2026 academic year's Morning Program, with 7,536 candidates appearing for 1,347 seats across 20 de-

partments. The test covered programs like Doctor of Pharmacy, BS in various sciences, business administration, and more. KU's Vice Chancellor, Dr. Khalid Mah-

mood Iraqi, along with key officials, visited examination centers, ensuring smooth operations and offering transport and support for students and parents.—RT

Millions at Risk of Banking Service Blockages as New Biometric Verification Rules Roll Out

KARACHI: Starting October 25, 2025, millions of digital bank account and e-wallet users in Pakistan may experience service interruptions due to the State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) new biometric verification regulations. Under these rules, all SBP-regulated entities—banks, digital banks, microfinance institu-



tions, and electronic money platforms—must adopt biometric verification as the primary method of identity for all individual and entity accounts, including Roshan Digital Accounts.—RT

Historic Water Initiative: Punjab Launches Clean Drinking Project for 29 Million Residents

LAHORE: The Punjab government has launched a major clean water initiative to protect citizens from unsafe drinking water. Chaired by Secretary Housing Noorul Amin Mengal, a meeting reviewed implementation plans for the project's first phase, covering 16 districts. Filtration plants will be installed in areas with arsenic-contaminated groundwater, while surface water treatment

plants will be set up at Dharabi, Miroval, and Phaleena dams. Four bottling plants will operate in Khushab, Bahawalpur, DG Khan, and Rahim Yar Khan. Scheduled for completion by June 2026, the project will benefit 29 million people and serve water in 19-liter bottles.—RT/Agency

Chitral Expo 2025 Announced: Showcasing Local Craft, Culture, Tourism & Trade



KP: The 2nd Chitral Expo 2025 kicked off today at Pamir Riverside Inn with a vibrant inauguration ceremony attended by officials, business leaders, and artists. Organized by TDAP and the Chitral Chamber of Commerce, the Expo showcases Chitral's economic potential in handicrafts, dry fruits, gemstones, and tourism. Dr. Sana Ullah, acting Vice Chancellor of University of Chitral, emphasized the role of such events in boosting regional trade. The Expo continues through October 26, offering opportunities for business growth and cultural exchange.—RT

Nation Marks 50th Death Anniversary of Revolutionary Orator Agha Shorish Kashmiri

LAHORE: The 50th death anniversary of renowned journalist, writer, and scholar Agha Shorish Kashmiri is being observed today (Saturday). Born on August 14, 1917, in Lahore, Kashmiri played an active role in the Pakistan Movement and began his political journey in 1935 with a memorable speech at the Shaheed Ganj

Mosque conference. As the chief editor of the weekly Chatan, he made lasting contributions to journalism and literature. His notable works include Qaid-i-Farang, Iqbal Payambar-i-Inqilab, Pase Diwar-e-Zindan, and Shah Jai Kay Man Bodam. He passed away in Lahore in 1975.—RT/Agency

IMF Pushes Major Overhaul: FBR Stripped of Tax Policy Role, New Authority to Take Charge



ISLAMABAD: In a major restructuring move, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) will now be limited to tax collection duties, with the power to formulate tax policy shifting to a new office under the Ministry of Finance. This shift is part of

Pakistan's commitment to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditions. The newly activated Tax Policy Office will take over the responsibility for drafting tax policies, leaving the FBR to focus solely on revenue collection.—RT

SP Adeel Akbar's Death Believed Accidental, Say Police Sources Amid Ongoing Inquiry

Superintendent of Police (SP) Adeel Akbar is believed to have accidentally shot himself, police sources claimed on Saturday, with his medical report and a leave request submitted before his death came to light. The federal government formed a high-level investigation team to probe SP Akbar's mysterious death, who sustained gunshot

wounds to his head in his vehicle in Islamabad on October 23. Sources said that officers of the Police Service of Pakistan (PSP) are generally not trained in handling submachine guns (SMGs). They added that experts determined the SMG used in the incident was fired at a 65-degree angle.—RT/Agency

Tribal Unity on Display at Nawab Sanaullah Zehri's Son's Grand Wedding



BALOCHISTAN/KARACHI: A grand wedding ceremony for Ameer Hamza Zehri, son of former Balochistan Chief Minister and Chief of Jhalawan, Nawab Sanaullah Zehri, drew prominent tribal and political figures. Sardar Manzoor Ahmed Khan Kakar, President of the Kakar Tribes Federation and Secretary General of the Balochistan Youth Front, along with distinguished leaders from Sindh and Balochistan, attended and shared warm moments alongside Nawab Zehri, highlighting strong regional unity.—RT

Central Punjab

Ahsan Iqbal Stresses Education & Discipline at Narowal Medical College Career Ceremony

By Rana Mudassar

NAROWAL: A grand ceremony was held at Narowal Medical College, where Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal attended as the chief guest. The event was also attended by Dr. Ansar Hayat and Dr. Sadia Hayat, honorary lecturers from the University of Leeds, Principal Professor Dr. Kamran Chaudhry, Medical Superin-



tendent Dr. Muhammad Afzal, faculty members, and students. Dr. Ansar and Dr. Sadia delivered an inspiring lecture on career counseling and an-

nounced scholarships from the University of Leeds for Narowal Medical College students. The program also highlighted an academic collaboration, allowing student exchanges between Narowal and the University of Leeds. Minister Iqbal praised Narowal's development and emphasized stability as the foundation of progress. Souvenirs were presented to the guests.

RPO Gujranwala Tours Sialkot to Boost Community Policing & Public Service Outreach

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Regional Police Officer Gujranwala, Fayaz Hafeez Cheema, visited Sialkot to review police performance, address public grievances, and promote community policing initiatives. He held open courts at Bambanwala and Muradpur police stations, resolving citizen complaints on the spot, and inspected Thana Airport, Ugoki, and Moradpur for administrative and operational review. RPO Cheema participated in a traffic awareness



campaign on Kashmir Road, distributing helmets to promote safe travel. He also visited the Safe City Sialkot Faisal Shahzad's Authority office, police lines, and Smart Police Station Nikapura, inaugurating renovated facilities and welfare projects for families of martyred policemen. He praised DPO Sialkot Faisal Shahzad's efforts and emphasized improving police performance and speedy justice for citizens.

JI Punjab Calls for Immediate Farmer Relief as Inflation Hits Rural Livelihoods

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Deputy Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Punjab, Rana Abdul Waheed Khan, called farmers the backbone of the nation, warning that excessive inflation and flawed government policies have put agriculture at risk. He highlighted steep increases in the prices of pesticides, fertilizers, diesel, and other essentials, urging the government to raise the wheat support price to Rs 3,500 per maund and an-



nounce a Rs 10 billion relief package. Khan criticized the ruling elite for ignoring public suffering and announced a nationwide protest movement starting October 28 to advocate for farmers, laborers, and ordinary citizens. Leaders including Dr. Attaullah Hameed, Haider Chaudhry, and Maulana Rehmatullah Arshad attended the press conference.

Gujranwala Health Officials Highlight Alarming Rise in Mental Health Challenges

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Deputy Commissioner Naveed Ahmed emphasized that healthy minds are crucial for societal development while addressing a World Mental Health Day and Measles-Rubella Awareness seminar. He urged psychologists, teachers, and parents to focus on youth mental well-being. Chairman Chamber Nasir Mehmood highlighted the



business community's role in ensuring children receive social welfare, including measles and rubella mental health initiatives for workers, November 17-29. The CEO Health Dr. Ir. seminar was attended by shadullah Guraia and by local officials, pro-DHO Dr. Adil Ayub professionals, and committed citizens to community leaders.

Punjab Food Authority Launches Major Crackdown on Adulterated Food in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Maila, the Punjab Food Authority conducted inspections of 121 food units across the district. Nine units were fined Rs 140,000, and one unit was sealed for severe violations. Over 60 kg of expired items, used oil, and



spoiled milk were also observed. Food safety teams continue field inspections to curb adulteration of product testing records.

Punjab Announces Illegal Arms Amnesty Campaign, Urges Citizens to Surrender Weapons

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Punjab Inspector General of Police Dr. Usman 4-14 years imprisonment and fines of Rs 1- also been reunited Punjab Surrender of Il-

legal Arms Act 2025, requiring all illegal weapons to be surrendered within 15 days, and strengthening law enforcement. Over 2,500 missing children have been reunited Punjab Surrender of Il-

Three Dead, Eleven Injured in Tragic Motorway Crash Near Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: A tragic road accident near Rajana Interchange on Motorway M-3 early Friday claimed the lives of three including two

women and a one-year-old child. A severely injured, a juried and deceased to Hyundai pickup from Mul-DHQ Hospital, Toba Tek Singh. Over-speeding was reported as the cause of the crash. Victims were en-

EDITORIAL

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Another Coffin from a Police Station: Pakistan's Shame Cannot Continue

The death of Muhammad Irfan, a teenage boy who breathed his last inside the custody of Karachi's Special Investigation Unit, is not a "controversial incident." It is a tragedy soaked in blood, pain, and a rot that has long poisoned our policing system. The very institution mandated to protect and serve has, once again, proven capable of brutality that belongs to dark regimes, not a nation claiming to uphold law and justice.

Irfan's family alleges he was tortured. The preliminary post-mortem confirms signs of torture. Yet, the police hurriedly registered the FIR themselves — not on behalf of the grieving family — but as the complainants. This brazen

manipulation alone exposes everything. It



shows a force determined not to seek truth, but to shield its own. The victim's relatives and community, forced to stage a protest with his coffin at Sohrab Goth, were not seeking revenge. They were begging — begging — for something so basic it should never have been in question: justice.

This is not an isolated event. It is part of a horrifying pattern. Young men dying in "custody,"

suspects "falling ill," bodies returning to families marked with bruises while inquiries drag into silence. The message this sends is chilling: police uniforms, instead of symbolizing public safety, now strike fear.

If this state is to survive with any moral core, this case must become the line that cannot be crossed again. Those responsible must be charged under murder — not negligence — and prosecuted publicly. The FIR must be re-registered on the family's complaint. And every officer involved, directly or indirectly, must face accountability.

Justice delayed now would not just fail Irfan — it would betray the very idea of Pakistan.

THE HEARTLAND



Democracy Sustained by Writers, Poets, Journalists, and Artists, Says Nisar Khuhro

By Khadim Hussain Khaskheli

SANGHAR: Sindh PPP President Nisar Ahmed Khuhro said that poets, writers, intellectuals, journalists, and artists made unforgettable sacrifices alongside the martyred leader Benazir Bhutto in the struggle for the restoration of democracy. "It is because of their sacrifices that democracy exists in Pakistan today," he said, adding that any discussion about the movement for democracy's restoration would be incomplete without mentioning their contributions. Khuhro said that Shaheed Benazir Bhutto held immense respect for poets and intellectuals. Speaking alongside PPP Sindh's Coordination Secretary Nauman Shaikh, Cultural Wing General Secretary Liaquat Ali Shahani, Deputy General



Secretary Qadir Saba, and other party leaders, Khuhro emphasized that writers, artists, and intellectuals should join the PPP Cultural Wing to further promote Sindh's culture and heritage. He added that the newly elected office-bearers of the PPP Cultural Wing bear great responsibility to carry forward the vision of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, Co-

Chairman Asif Ali Zardari, and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. Khuhro highlighted that Sindh is the land of Sufis where Muslims and Hindus live together in peace and harmony. "It is a matter of pride that Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto gave equal rights to minorities when he founded the PPP," he said. "Today, the PPP remains the true protector of their rights."

Grand Finale of Inter-Cadet College Sports Championship 2025 Thrills at Cadet College Petaro

By Munawar Chando

HYDERABAD: The four-day "Inter-Cadet College Sports Championship 2025" concluded at Cadet College Petaro, featuring competitions in athletics, football, volleyball, cricket, hockey, and other sports. The event was attended by PPP MPA Dr. Sikandar Shoro, Principal of Cadet College Petaro Commodore Faisal Iqbal Qazi (Sitara-e-Imtiaz Military), Principal of

Bakhtawar Cadet College Nawabshah Dr. Fareeda Shaikh, Principal of Sanghar Cadet College Commodore Zeeshan Ahmed, Principal of SST Rashidabad Air Vice Marshal (R) Tahir Ranjha, cadets' parents, and other distinguished guests. Special guest Dr. Sikandar Shoro praised the growing interest of youth in sports and emphasized that extracurricular activities alongside academics are essential for mental and

physical development and instilling discipline. In the four-day competitions, host Cadet College Petaro secured first position, SST Rashidabad second, Sanghar Cadet College third, and Cadet College Karachi fourth. During the closing ceremony, awards were distributed to the winning athletes, with organizers expressing hope that such competitions will continue to promote healthy habits among students.

Two Killed and Child Rescued Amid Violent Shooting in Kashmir

By Aftab Bhatti

KASHMIRE: A violent firing incident occurred near Shah Wah feeder in Kashmir, targeting homes of the Chachar community in village Mahar Ali Mazari. The attack left two people

dead who were named Riaz and Mashooq Chachar and two others critically injured. During the assault, armed men abducted a 10-year-old girl, Azra Chachar. Thanks to prompt police action, the girl was safely recovered. The injured

were shifted to Rahimyar Khan for treatment, while the deceased were taken to the local hospital for post-mortem before being handed to their families. Relatives accused members of the Bugti community of orchestrating the attack.

Surprise Raids on Talhar Petrol Pumps Lead to Sealing and Heavy Fines

TALHAR: Assistant Commissioner Talhar, Abdul Ghaffar Mallah, along with Mukhtiar Kar Moazzam Ali Shar and staff, conducted surprise inspections on petrol pumps accused of giving short measures and overcharging customers.

During the operation, one petrol pump was sealed, fines were imposed, and thousands of litres of oil were collected on the spot. Speaking to reporters, AC Abdul Ghaffar Mallah stated that citizens' complaints prompted the raids. Mukhtiar Kar Moazzam Ali Shar said all pump owners were warned not to overcharge or tamper with measurements, or strict legal action would follow. Assistant Commissioner Mir Asad Talpur and others were also present.—RT

PPP MPA Jameel Ahmed Soomro Unveils Renovated GIBCE Building



By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Jameel Ahmed Soomro, political secretary to PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and City MPA, visited the Government Institute of Business and Commercial Education (GIBCE) and inaugurated the building after its renovation. He stated that, following the vision

of the party chairman, special focus is being given to technical and vocational education to reduce unemployment, enabling youth to easily secure jobs both domestically and abroad. Regional Director Mureed Hussain Khokharani, Principal Arbab Ali Qadri, and other local leaders were also present on the occasion.

Chairman Inspects PCB Sports Ground and Engages with Cricketers



By Javed Laghari

DADU: Pir Danish Ali, Chairman of the Municipal Committee, visited the PCB Sports Ground, where he met with Pakistan International Cricket Team players, including Zahid Mehmood Bhatti. The players expressed their gratitude to Pir Danish Ali and PPP District President Pir Majeed-ul-Haq for providing excel-

lent facilities at the ground, which support young athletes in honing their skills and representing Pakistan with pride. Party workers, leaders, and municipal officers were also present during the visit. The cricketers appreciated the efforts made to encourage sports development and promised to continue striving for national recognition through their hard work.

Two Notorious Criminals Captured in Sita Road Police Operation

By Zain-ul-Abideen Samo

SITA ROAD: Under the leadership of SHO Khalid Hussain Lakher, Sita Road police conducted a successful operation, arresting two dangerous criminals possessing illegal weapons. Akbar, son of Piyar Ali Chando, was found with a repeater

and cartridges, while Abdul Latif Chando had a 7mm rifle. Brave police officers including Bahar Roshan Panhwar and Qalandar Baksh Palipoto participated in the operation. SHO Lakher stated that operations against illegal arms will continue to maintain law and order.

MD-CAT Examination Preparations Reviewed in Nawabshah

By Samad Ayaz Dahri

NAWABSHAH: A meeting regarding the upcoming MD-CAT test in Sindh was held at the Committee Room of Quaid-e-Azam University of Engineering, Nawabshah. The session was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Abdul Samad Nizamani

and attended by Registrar Prof. Dr. Saleem Kashanchand Makwana, SSP Shaheed Benazirabad Shabbir Ahmed Sethar, DHOs, and other officials. It was announced that 2,500 students will take the test tomorrow at the Multi-Purpose Hall Ground from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. IBA Sukkur has

implemented strict arrangements, including cameras in each block monitored by their team. Candidates from Nawabshah, Naushehro Feroze, and Sanghar districts will participate. Authorities emphasized disciplined conduct and smooth administration during the exam.

MNA Sadiq Ali Memon Opens Modern Waiting Shed at Garho Health Unit

By Sajid Ali Janyaro

KETI BANDAR: Member of National Assembly and PPP District Thatta President, Sadiq Ali Memon, inaugurated a modern waiting shed at the Basic Health Unit (BHU) Garho. Highlighting the PPP's commitment to public welfare under Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari, he said the initiative by Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) and Sindh Community Foundation (SCF) enhances healthcare facilities and ensures dignified ameni-



ties for patients. The ceremony was attended by local officials and community leaders, including Additional Director Social Welfare Khuda Bux Bharani and CEO SCF Javed Soz Halai. MNA Memon inspected the facility, praising its cleanliness and quality. The project aims to provide patients and attendants a safe, comfortable waiting environment, reflecting the value of public-private cooperation in improving local healthcare services.

Johi Residents Protest Municipal Committee Corruption and Neglect

By Roshan Memon

JOHI: Citizens of Johi protested in front of the National Service Club over alleged corruption and mismanagement in the Municipal Committee.

tee. Despite a budget of over Rs 278 million, roads, drainage, and water supply remain in disrepair, for development, with salaries paid via a flawed visa system. Protesters accused

Armed Clash Between Ujjan and Kaleri Communities Erupts in Khuhra

By M Dino Lakho

KHUHRA: Violence erupted again today between the Ujjan and Kaleri communities in Khuhra and Drib Mehar Shah. Kaleri armed men allegedly took two Ujjan workers, Ashiq Ali and Miskeen Ujjan, hostage while working in agricultural fields. Both sides exchanged fire with modern weapons for around five hours, though no casualties were reported. Police pickets set up by SSP Khairpur ini-



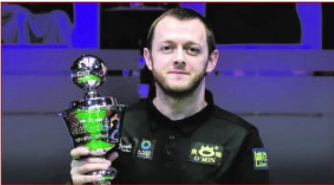
tially failed to control the situation. DSP Gambat, with support from 10 local police stations, intervened, stopped the firing, and conducted fear in the area.

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS



Mark Allen Books Semi-Final Showdown with Judd Trump After Belfast Triumph



Mark Allen booked his place in the semi-finals of the Northern Ireland Open with a 5-2 victory over fellow Antrim player Jordan Brown at Belfast's Waterfront Hall.

The world number eight faced a stern challenge throughout the match but delivered a composed and clinical performance to move a step closer to winning his home title.

Allen got off to a strong start, compiling a century break of 101 in the opening frame. Brown responded in style, producing a brilliant 131 clearance to level the scores.

The third frame turned into a tense tactical battle on the colours, but Allen edged through

and then extended his lead in the next.

Reflecting on the emotional nature of the all-Antrim clash, Allen admitted the atmosphere was unusual given the divided local support.

"I was relieved to get over the line. It was not a lot of fun playing Jordan," Allen said.

"It may have been a neutral as we both had plenty of support, but it was a strange atmosphere because they wanted us both to do well. I don't get much enjoyment out of beating Jordan because I always support him otherwise."

Brown continued to fight, firing another impressive century break of 120 to close the gap.—Agency

Man Arrested for Stalking and Harassing Australian Cricketers at World Cup



Indian police arrested a man accused of stalking and inappropriately touching two Australian cricketers in Indore during the ICC Women's World Cup. The incident occurred on Thursday morning as the players left their hotel.

Security officers filed a complaint, and after an intensive operation, the accused was swiftly identified and arrested. The shocking event unfolded just a day after Australia's victory over England in the group stage.—RT

Sam Kerr Returns! Australian Superstar Reclaims Captaincy After 20-Month Injury Battle



Australia's striker Sam Kerr has reclaimed her spot as captain, despite facing scrutiny over her leadership during a challenging 20-month period sidelined by injury.

Kerr's return with full fitness, resolving to lead her country once again, is unwavering, even as doubts about her suitability for the role continue to surface.

The Chelsea forward has been recalled to the Matildas squad for Saturday's friendly against Wales in Cardiff, marking her return to the team after recovering from a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament.

Kerr, who was replaced as captain by Steph Catley during her absence, made headlines in February when she was involved in a court case following an incident two years earlier during a night out in London. She was found not guilty of racially aggravated harassment of a police officer.—Agency

Hasan Ali Drops Cryptic Tweet After Being Left Out of Pakistan's White-Ball Squad



Pakistan pacer Hasan Ali has posted a cryptic message on social media following his exclusion from the national squad for the upcoming white-ball assignments, which include ODI and T20I series against South Africa, a 50-over series against Sri Lanka, and a T20I tri-series featuring Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka.

Hasan took to the social media platform X (formerly Twitter) and shared a motivational quote, writing: "When the going gets tough, put one foot in front of the other and just keep going. Don't give up."

Fans were quick to react to Hasan's tweet, expressing their support for the pacer. Many called him a "fighter"



and urged him not to give up, while others voiced their disappointment, terming his exclusion from the squad "unfair."

The right-arm pacer, known for his energy and entertaining celebrations, has been one of Pakistan's stand-out performers in T20I cricket.

He has represented the country in 57 matches, claiming 72 wickets at an economy rate of 8.71.

Hasan also boasts vast experience in various foreign leagues, having featured in the Lanka Premier League (LPL), Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) and Caribbean Premier League (CPL). He is now set to make his maiden appearance in Australia's Big Bash League (BBL) season 15 with the Adelaide Strikers.

The 31-year-old was part of Pakistan's squad for the T20I tri-nation series against Afghanistan and the UAE ahead of the ACC Men's T20 Asia Cup 2025, where he played just one game but impressed by taking three wickets.

He was also included in Pakistan's Asia Cup squad but did not feature in any match, remaining on the bench throughout the tournament.

Hasan recently returned to red-ball cricket during the home Test series against South Africa.—Agency

Women's World Cup: Alana King's Stunning Seven-Wicket Haul Keeps Australia Untouchable



INDORE: Australia LBW to Kim Garth after making 6 off 19, sparking a middle-order collapse.

Within six overs, King tore through the Proteas lineup, removing Sune Luus (6), Marizanne Kapp (0), Annerie Dercksen (5) and Chloe Tryon (0), reducing South Africa to 60-6 in the 16th over.

Sinalo Jafta offered brief resistance with a brisk 29 off 17 balls, striking seven fours, but became King's fifth victim.

The leg-spinner later added Nadine de Klerk (14) and Masabata Klaas (4) to her tally before Ashleigh Gardner ended the innings by dismissing Ayabonga Khaka for a duck.

Chasing 98, Australia stumbled early as Phoebe Litchfield (5) and Ellyse Perry (0) fell cheaply, leaving the side at 11-2 in the sixth over.—Agency

Virat Kohli Surpasses Sangakkara to Rewrite ODI Record Books



SYDNEY: Indian batting maestro Virat Kohli added another milestone to his illustrious career by surpassing Kumar Sangakkara's tally of runs in One Day International (ODIs) during the third and final ODI against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) on Saturday.

Kohli, who played a match-winning knock of 74 off 81 balls with eight boundaries, is now the second-highest run-scorer in ODI history, amassing 14,255 runs in 305 matches at an impressive average of 57.71 and a strike rate of 93.26, including 75 fifties and 51 centuries.

The former Sri Lankan captain Sangakkara has now slipped to third place, with 14,234 runs in 404 matches, featuring 93 fifties and 25 centuries.

The record for the most runs in ODIs still belongs to Indian legend Sachin Tendulkar, who leads the list with 18,426 runs in 463 matches at an average of 44.83, including 96 fifties and 49 hundreds.

Kohli's landmark innings came in a game where India avoided a whitewash, defeating Australia by nine wickets to end the series 2-1.

Chasing a target of 237, India cruised to 238-1 with 69 balls to spare, thanks to a dominant 121 not out from Rohit Sharma and Kohli's composed half-century.

Earlier, opener Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill provided a solid platform with a 69-run stand before Josh Hazlewood dismissed Gill for 24. Thereafter, Kohli and Rohit took charge, dismantling the Australian bowling with ease.

Rohit reached his 33rd ODI century, striking 13

fours and three sixes, while Kohli's elegant strokeplay ensured India's smooth chase.

For Australia, their innings fell apart after a steady start. From 183/3, they collapsed to 236 all out, losing their last seven wickets for just 53 runs.

Harshit Rana led the bowling attack with an impressive 4-39, while Matt Renshaw top-scored with 56. Spinners Axar Patel and Washington Sundar chipped in with two wickets each as India's bowlers maintained relentless pressure.

Despite the defeat, Australia clinched the series 2-1, having won the first two matches in Perth and Adelaide.—Agency

Rohit & Kohli Lead India to Consolation Victory Over Australia at SCG



SYDNEY: Indian stalwarts Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli delivered a historic batting masterclass at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) on Saturday (October 25), steering India to a commanding nine-wicket win and denying Australia a series sweep.

Rohit marked the occasion with his 50th international century, while Kohli surpassed Kumar Sangakkara to become the second-highest run-scorer in ODI history.

The duo stitched together their first century stand across formats since January 2020, helping India chase down a modest target and avoid a 3-0 series defeat.

Their partnership came on the back of a disciplined bowling performance led by young pacer Harshit Rana,

whose four-wicket haul restricted Australia to a below-par 237.

Matthew Renshaw registered his maiden ODI fifty, but Australia's batting lineup struggled to build partnerships as India's bowlers applied consistent pressure.

Opting to bat first for only the second time in 27 ODIs as captain, Mitchell Marsh hoped for a repeat of Australia's 431/2 against South Africa last year.

However, after a promising start, Siraj removed Travis Head for 33, shortly after he reached 3,000 ODI runs. Marsh looked solid until Axar Patel trapped him for 41 with a delivery that angled in from around the wicket.

Renshaw and Matthew Short attempted to rebuild, but tight spells from Washington Sundar and Axar Patel stalled their momentum. Short perished while trying

to sweep, offering a sharp catch to Kohli.

Later, Alex Carey's struggle ended with a spectacular catch from Shreyas Iyer, who injured his rib in the process and was taken for medical assessment.

Renshaw reached his maiden fifty but was trapped leg-before by Sundar on review, sparking a late collapse. Harshit Rana and Kuldeep Yadav cleaned up the lower order as Australia were bowled out in the 47th over. In response, Kohli and Shubman Gill provided a solid start, racing to 68 without loss in the PowerPlay. Gill's dismissal for 35 brought Kohli to the crease, who was greeted warmly by the crowd after avoiding a third consecutive duck.—Agency

Tony Bellew Predicts New Heavyweight King in Post-Usyk Era



Former English boxer Tony Bellew has predicted the next undisputed champion in the heavyweight division after Oleksandr Usyk hangs up his gloves, saying, "He'll Clean Up."

After Usyk defeated Tyson Fury in 2024 on points, it was the first time in 25 years that the heavyweight division had one undisputed ruler.

The Ukrainian cleared up all the belts by defeating Anthony Joshua twice and stopping Daniel Dubois once.

Later in 2024, he did it again by getting rid of Fury in a rematch and then regained the IBF belt from Dubois, that he had vacated he had vacated, making history by becoming the first-ever two-time undisputed champion in the four-belt era.

Speaking to Football Blog, Bellew predicted Moses Itauma as the next big thing in the division after Usyk retires.

"Oleksandr Usyk's just going to walk away into the sunset, and he's going to go 'I've had enough.' When he does, you will find them all scavenged towards the belts, and then you will find lesser champions and then somebody else will come along," Bellew said.

"Hence, Moses Itauma, and he will clean up again. And then you will have a reigning, undisputed unified champion again."

Itauma has emerged as the brightest star of the heavyweight division, holding an unbeaten record of 13-0, with 11 of his victories coming by knockout.

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

Last time out, Itauma added the biggest name to his KO list when he rose to the occasion and claimed victory in the first round against Dillian Whyte in a non-title fight on August 16 in Saudi Arabia.—Agency

Face of the Day



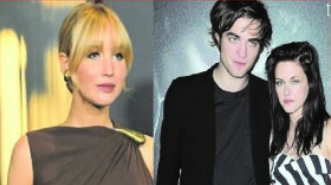
Name: Hashir Khan
About me: I love playing video games and mastering new challenges!

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

REGIONAL TIMES

ENTERTAINMENT

Jennifer Lawrence Finally Speaks Out on Kristen Stewart's Infamous Cheating Scandal



Jennifer Lawrence admitted that she once asked Robert Pattinson about his former relationship with Kristen Stewart.

During an appearance on the latest episode of The Graham Norton Show, the 35-year-old actress revealed that while she worked with Robert on their new film, Die My Love, she asked the actor about the cheating scandal that ended their four-year romance with Kristen.

"If you think I didn't ask him about Donald Trump tweeting about the breakup with Kristen? I mean, obviously," joked Jennifer.

"It was like three days after the photos came out and Trump was like, 'He better leave her!'" she added.

The tweet she talked about came after photos of Kristen kissing director Rupert Sanders went viral in July 2012. At the time, Rupert was married to English model Liberty Ross, but she filed for divorce six months later following the dispute. Later, Kristen publicly apologized to Robert, but the two eventually broke up in 2013.

'Barbie' Star to Take On One of Her Darkest, Most Gritty Roles Yet



Margot Robbie is reportedly set to take on one of the darkest roles of her career yet.

The Barbie star is in discussions for Christian Bales' role as part time serial killer Patrick Bateman in American Psycho.

A film source told the outlet, "A remake of American Psycho is in the works and Margot is in the frame to play a female version of Patrick Bateman."

"Brett's novel and the film were so controversial and the people working on the remake wanted to twist the narrative by having a female actress take on the lead of Bateman," they added.

Moreover, the tipster shared, "There was a huge backlash about misogyny when the novel came out back in the Nineties."

Noting, "And by having a female killer, it puts a different spin on the crimes. Margot's career is on fire at the moment."

It is pertinent to mention that Margot Robbie recently wrapped up filming Wuthering Heights, which is set to release in February 2026.

Nicole Scherzinger Shrugs Off 'Diva' Claims After Arriving Late to Performance



Nicole Scherzinger has spoken out on "diva" claims after arriving late for her performance.

For those unaware, the 47-year-old American singer-songwriter and dancer was 45 minutes late for her performance at the Royal Albert Hall in London earlier in October 2025. Many people got frustrated and said success made her big-headed, which "devastated" her.

While conversing with The Sun, Scherzinger insisted that she was not "tiddling her thumbs" backstage during the delay; rather, she was making sure her one-woman show, An Evening With?..?.. turns out to be perfect.

The Heartbeat crooner, who secured an Olivier and Tony Award for her portrayal of Norma Desmond in Sunset Boulevard, and scored a UK No.1 with its soundtrack, quipped, "It wasn't until after I was done that I found out people had been sitting there for so long."

She added, "I was devastated and I was horrified," "cause I was like, 'Oh my gosh, I would be frustrated as well if I were told to sit there for so long'. I think they had to be in their seats for, like 7.15pm, or something, but I thought my show was due to start at 8pm."



THE HEARTLAND

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

Anti-Drug Awareness Session Held at New City Public School Raju Khanani

BADIN: The Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with Heep Development Organization, organized an anti-drug awareness seminar at New City Public School, Rajukhani. Additional Director Abdul Ghaffar Khosa presided over the event, emphasizing that drugs are highly destructive to individuals and society. Teachers and parents were urged to engage children in healthy activities like sports and competitions. Assistant Director Riaz Qureshi highlighted health risks, while Heep Development's Ikram Khaskheli stressed early prevention. Students and teachers called for continued efforts against drug abuse.



Sister of Former DG Health Sindh Dr. Abdul Majeed Chhuto Passes Away

By Sajan Jani Detho

SHAHADAPUR: The sister of former DG Health Sindh, Dr. Abdul Majeed Chhuto and Mir Chhuto and mother of Wazir Chhuto passed away. Her funeral prayer was offered in the village of Haji Moulana Bakhsh Chhuto, attended by politicians, social figures, officers, traders, lawyers, doctors, and hundreds of community members from Shahdadpur and across Sindh. She was laid to rest in the ancestral graveyard amid heavy mourning. Citizens and relatives extended condolences, offering prayers for her soul's eternal peace.



Kotri Journalists Protest Police Raid on Senior Reporter's Home

By Shaikh Sindihi

KOTRI: Journalists staged a protest at Kotri Press Club after police, led by SHO Kotri Suleman Lashari and W-5 In-Charge Hamid Otho, raided senior journalist Hussain Shoro's home around 2 AM. Despite protests from Shoro and his family, officers allegedly entered bedrooms, causing Hussain's mother to suffer a health crisis. The raid sparked widespread outrage in the journalistic community. Protesters demanded the immediate suspension of the involved officers and threatened province-wide demonstrations if justice is not ensured. Journalists stressed the need to protect press freedom and hold authorities accountable for such violations.



Saleem Memon Appointed FBR Business Representative in Tax Consultation Committee

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has nominated Mr. Saleem Memon, President of the Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders & Small Industry (HCSTSI), as a business representative under Sales Tax General Order No. 02 of 2025.

The committee will be consulted before initiating investigations or arrests in tax fraud cases. This nomination recognizes HCSTSI's continuous advocacy for small traders, policy reforms, and transparent tax practices. Saleem Memon highlighted the Chamber's efforts in engaging with FBR and the government to improve tax procedures, expand the tax base, and protect business interests. He pledged to serve with dedication, ensuring fairness, transparency, and cooperation between the business community and government institutions nationwide.

DEO Khairpur Conducts Surprise Inspections of Schools in Thari Mirwah

By M Iqbal Soomro

THARI MIRWAH: To enhance education quality and school discipline, DEO Secondary Khairpur, Abdul Sami Bhambhro, conducted surprise visits to various government schools in Thari Mirwah. Accompanied by TEOs Shamsuddin Laghari and Zafar Bannhan, the DEO inspected Government Boys High School Faiz Muhammad Mojai, Government Boys Higher Secondary School Muhammad Shah, and several elementary and middle schools. During the inspection, eight teachers



were found absent, prompting Bhambhro to express strong dissatisfaction and announce strict action against negligent staff. He emphasized that the Education Department will ensure attendance, maintain teaching standards, and safeguard students' academic future. Outstanding students were also rewarded at Elementary School Thari Mirwah for their exemplary performance.

Villagers Rally Over Unfinished Bridge in Tando Muhammad Khan

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: Residents of Qaim Khan Birhamani village in Union Council Saeed Khan Lund held a protest against a contractor for leaving the construction of the Sim Nullah

bridge half-finished for over a year. Villagers, including Ashiq Ali Birhamani, Niaz Birhamani, Gulam Hussain Birhamani, and Anwar Birhamani, told media that the incomplete bridge has caused major difficulties, especially with the upcoming cane season, making transport of loaded tractors and trucks impossible. They accused contractor Sham Lal and his staff of giving false promises and demanded authorities ensure the bridge's completion. Villagers warned of expanding protests if the work is not finished soon.

Notorious Criminal Surrenders Amid Intensified Police Crackdown

By Murtaza Panhwar



MEHAR: Wanted in 13 cases, notorious criminal Azam Solangi voluntarily surrendered at Mehar Police Station, handing over his weapons to DSP Mashooq Keerio and SHO Tariq Lakhro. Speaking to reporters, officials said the ongoing "Al-Mizan" operation, supervised by SSP Dadu Amir Saud Magshi, has pressured several criminals to surrender. Legal action against Azam Solangi will continue, while police urged other wanted offenders to surrender, noting reduced sentences under the law for those who do.

Hindu Panchayat Celebrates Diwali with Cultural Harmony and Community Spirit



LARKANA: Hindu Panchayat Larkana organized a colorful Diwali celebration at Marvi Lawn, Sumbra Hotel, attended by a large number of men, women, and children. The event featured religious tableaux, traditional dances, and a grand fireworks display. Speakers highlighted Hindu-Muslim harmony and Special guests included MNA Ramesh Lal, MPA Jameel Ahmed Soomro, Chief Minister's Special Assistant Khair Muhammad Shaikh, District Council Chairman Aijaz Ahmed Laghari, Mayor Anwar Ali Lohar, PPP leaders, MPA and community members. The celebration continued late into the night, with spreading joy, lights, and unity.

Thana Bula Khan Alumni Reunite After Three Decades



By Shoukat Khaskheli

THANA BULA KHAN: Former primary students of Thana Ahmed Khan, who passed between 1990-1994, reunited after 30 years for a special dinner and gathering. Alumni, including Harish Kumar Hemrajani, Mahesh Kumar Asudani, Taran Chand, and others, presented traditional Sindh shawls to their teachers. Teachers, including Mitthal Khasikhal, Harish Kumar, and Dr. Rajesh Kumar, addressed the gathering, recalling memories and expressing joy. Guests emphasized serving their hometown in education, healthcare, and local development. The event featured live Sindh music by renowned singer Mumtaz Molai, culminating with lighting lamps and celebrating the festival of Diwali together.

Death Anniversary of Late PPP Leader Shah Muhammad Shah Lakiari Observed in Qazi Ahmed

By Sajid Ali Umar

QAZI AHMED: The first death anniversary of late political and social leader, former PPP Taluka President Shah Muhammad Shah, also known as Shahenshah Lakiari, was held at Qazi Ahmed's Five Marriage Hall. His eldest son, Syed Asif Shah Lakiari, received the turban presented by his eldest uncle Syed Sardar Ali Shah. Prominent PPP leaders, including former MPA Sardar Jam Tamachi, District President Saleem Khan Zardari, and MPA Gulam Qadir Chaudhry, attended the event along with hundreds of notable figures and representatives of local communities.

Ayaz Latif Palijo Honors 'Mother of Sindh' Zareena Baloch on 20th Death Anniversary

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: On the 20th death anniversary of Jiji Zareena Baloch, founder of the Sindhi Tehreek, QAT Chief Ayaz Latif Palijo led a tribute to the iconic figure, remembering her sacrifices and tireless struggle for Sindh. At a ceremony in Qasimabad, Palijo hailed Baloch as the embodiment of resistance, recalling her



key role in movements against One Unit and the Kalabagh Dam. He stressed the importance of women's empowerment, education, and her pivotal role in societal change.

Legal Showdown Looms as ASLAC Accepts Lanjar's Debate Challenge

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: Tensions between Sindh Law Minister Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar and the All Sindh Lawyers Action Committee (ASLAC) escalated today after ASLAC condemned Lanjar's comments on the Babarloo

Dharma. The committee accused him of distorting history and undermining the legal profession, particularly criticizing his dismissal of the Dharma as a "political stunt." ASLAC, in a statement issued by Secretary Israr Hussain Chang, firmly rejected these claims, reiterating the Dharma's stand against the controversial Six Canal Project. ASLAC also accepted Lanjar's challenge for a public debate and demanded an apology, setting the stage for a dramatic face-off on critical issues of justice, land, and water rights.

NATIONAL

KP CM Claims Rs550 Billion Debt from Federal Government, Demands Urgent NFC Meeting

KP: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa CM Sohail Afridi has claimed the federal government owes the province Rs550 billion, urging an immediate NFC meeting.

Speaking at a jirga in Khyber district, Afridi highlighted the sacrifices made by KP after 9/11, including drone strikes and military operations. He stressed the need for a grand peace jirga to foster stability and address the province's grievances.—RT

"UNICEF Ambassador Urges Open Conversations on Child Mental Health"

ISLAMABAD: UNICEF Pakistan's first National Ambassador for child rights, the actor, shared a heartfelt message on Instagram about the importance of discussing mental health. In a video, he emphasized that mental health should be normalized and treated with the same importance as physical health, especially for children.—RT

Shootout in Quetta: 3 Robbers Killed in Police Clash

QUETTA: Three suspected robbers were shot dead in a fire on a police patrol, prompting a retaliatory response on the outskirts of Quetta, in the Killi Khali area. The suspects opened fire on a police patrol, killing three robbers, said DSP Shaikat Jadoon.—RT

Govt Sets Ambitious Wheat Production Target of 30 Million Tonnes for 2025-26

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has set a wheat production target of 30 million tonnes for the 2025-26

Rabi season, relying on sufficient water supplies in Punjab and Sindh. This follows exceeding last season's target of 27.92 million tonnes, with an actual production of 28.42 million tonnes.—RT

Air Traffic Disruptions Ahead: PAA Announces Major Route Changes for Karachi, Lahore Flights

LAHORE: The Pakistan Airports Authority (PAA) has announced temporary route changes for Karachi and Lahore flights from 5:01 am on October 28 to 9 am on October 29, 2025, citing air traffic safety and management reasons. The move is a routine operational measure. Meanwhile, India has issued a NOTAM, possibly linked to a military exercise.—RT

THE UNIVERSITY OF MIRPURKHAS

TENDER NOTICE

Tender # NIT/UMPK/REG/2025/05

The University of Mirpurkhas invites electronic bids from the original manufacturers/authorized distributors/suppliers/service providers registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Department having vast experience in respective fields for the following items on "Single Stage Two Envelope basis".

S.No.	ITEMS
01	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, CONFIGURATION AND COMMISSIONING COMPUTER LAB EQUIPMENT
02	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND FIXING OF COMPUTER LAB FURNITURE

E-Bidding documents as per regulations, containing detailed terms and conditions, specifications, and requirements, are available on any working day from **October 27, 2025, to November 11, 2025**, for the registered bidders on EPADS at <https://portalsindh.eprocure.gov.pk> and the official website of the university. Interested bidders should submit a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3000 and a bid security of 3% of the estimated cost (refundable) in the shape of a bank draft/pay order in the name of The University of Mirpurkhas. Both must reach the Procurement Officer, The University of Mirpurkhas, before the deadline. The electronic bids must be submitted by using EPADS on or before **November 11, 2025, up to 03:00 PM**. Manual bids shall not be accepted. Electronic bids will be opened on the same day at 03:30 PM. The financial proposals of only technically eligible firms will be accepted/opened. The procuring agency reserves the right to reject any or all bids subject to relevant provisions of SPP Rules 2010 and may cancel the bidding process at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal under Rule-25 of said rules and as per PPRA rules.

PLEASE SEND YOUR QUERIES: procurement.officer@umpk.edu.pk

PROCUREMENT OFFICER
The University of Mirpurkhas
Adjacent Shah Abdul Latif Degree College Mirpurkhas, Sindh.
Website: <https://umpk.edu.pk> Ph: 023-3920249

PID (H) 153/25



Murad Lauds Landmark 50% Fall in Child Labour, Vows ‘No Child in Chains’ in Sindh

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah welcomed the Sindh Child Labour Survey 2023-24, revealing a 50% decline in child labour since 1996, but expressed concern over 1.3 million children still in forced work. He credited the progress to strict enforcement, non-formal education, and UNICEF-backed awareness drives, urging continued action in agriculture and industry sectors. In his message on the occasion of the International Artist Day, Shah lauded artists as “the voice of society,” announcing that the Arts Council Karachi will host the World Cultural Festival featuring 141 countries.—RT



Karachi Shock: Domestic Worker Found Living Secret Millionaire Life After Massive Theft

KARACHI: Police arrested a domestic worker in Defence Haripur, and Islamabad, and a passenger van service. The 45,000-rupee-per-month employee had secretly accessed the couple’s accounts and lockers over eight years. Authorities recovered gold worth over Rs12 million and found evidence of Rs18.6 million in bank transactions. Police said the suspect invested stolen funds in real estate and transport businesses.—RT/Agency

Rs10 Million Harassment Suit: Passenger Takes Ride-Hailing Company to Court

KARACHI: A woman has filed a Rs10 million damages suit in the Consumer Court against an online ride-hailing company, accusing its driver of harassment. She stated that due to the driver’s criminal behavior, she had to jump from the moving vehicle to save herself. Despite her complaint, the company took no action. The court has issued a notice to the company, seeking a reply.—RT/Agency



Met Office Releases Moon-Sighting Calendar for Islamic Year 1447 AH

KARACHI: The Pakistan Meteorological Department’s Climate Data Processing Centre has released the moon sighting calendar predicting the appearance of crescents for all Islamic months of 1447 AH. The calendar provides details on moon birth, sunset, and expected sighting times. As per predictions, the Sha’aban moon will likely be sighted on January 21, 2026, and Ramadan on February 18. Eidul Fitr’s crescent (Shawwal) is expected on March 19, followed by Zil Hajj on May 17 and Muharram 1448 AH on June 15, 2026. The schedule extends through December 2026, covering all lunar months.—RT/Agency

Karachi Sizzles Again: Heatwave Alerts Issued as Temperatures Soar

KARACHI: The city is expected to endure another scorching day as temperatures soar to 38°C amid abundant sunshine, extending the ongoing heat emergency. Meteorological data indicates a high of 38°C and a low of 23°C, with the RealFeel temperature at 37°C and only slight relief in shaded areas at 36°C. Easterly winds blowing at 11 km/h will provide minimal cooling, while the UV Index has moderately improved to 5. Authorities have renewed health advisories, warning residents of dehydration and heatstroke risks, urging them to stay indoors, stay hydrated, and avoid prolonged sun exposure.—RT/Agency

Custodial Horror: SIU Officers Booked Over Death of 15-Year-Old Irfan Baloch

KARACHI: A murder case has been registered against several officials of the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) over the custodial death of 15-year-old Irfan Baloch. The FIR, filed at SIU Police Station Saddar, names ASI Ubaid Shah, ASI Sarfraz, and constables Fayyaz Shah, Waqar, and Asif Ali, among others. Postmortem reports revealed multiple torture marks, contradicting police claims of a heart attack. Irfan was arrested from Aysha Manzil while filming a TikTok video and died hours later. Despite the suspension of three SIU sub-inspectors, no arrests have been made as investigations continue.—RT/Agency

Karachi Now World’s 3rd Most Polluted City as Smog Crisis Deepens

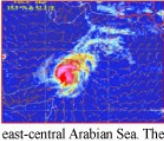
KARACHI: The air quality in Pakistan’s largest city, Karachi, has reached a highly hazardous level. According to the Air Quality Index (AQI), Karachi currently ranks third among the most polluted cities in the world. The AQI recorded the city’s air pollution level at 229, particularly matter (PM). It is worth noting that on the Air Quality Index, pollution levels between 150 and 200 PM are considered unhealthy, 200 to 300 PM indicate severe pollution, and levels above 300 PM represent extremely hazardous air conditions.—RT/Agency

Armed Robbery Foiled: Stolen Trailer Recovered in Malir After Chase

KARACHI: Sukhan Investigation Police recovered a stolen trailer container during a raid led by Sub-Inspector Sultan in District Malir. According to reports, the accused fled the scene with accomplices in a car after stealing the container from Qasim Town’s warehouse. Nine armed suspects had overpowered a police guard by threatening him at gunpoint before escaping with the vehicle. Police later traced and recovered the container, while efforts are underway to arrest the main culprits behind the daring theft.—RT/Agency

Arabian Sea on Alert: Third Tropical Cyclone Watch Issued This Month

KARACHI: The Meteorological Department has issued a third tropical cyclone watch as a low-pressure system persists over the south-eastern Arabian Sea. Over the past 24 hours, the system moved north-northeast and is expected to shift toward the east-central Arabian Sea. The disturbance is gradually moving closer to Karachi and currently lies around 340 kilometers east of Lakshadweep, India. Authorities continue to monitor its trajectory for any potential impact on Pakistan’s coastal areas.—RT/Agency



MQM Comeback Show? Farooq Sattar Announces Power Rally on Nov 1



KARACHI: MQM-Pakistan senior leader Dr. Farooq Sattar said that by boycotting the local government elections, the party exposed its rivals’ failures. Announcing a massive public gathering in Surjani Town on November 1, he reviewed preparations and said the event will showcase MQM’s unity and strength. He added it will mark a new phase in the struggle for urban Sindh’s rights and serve as a strong response to conspiracies aimed at dividing or weakening MQM.—RT/Agency

Renowned Gastroenterologist Dr. Akram Bajwa Inquires About Kazi Asad's Health



KARACHI: Distinguished Gastroenterologist Dr. Akram Bajwa paid a warm courtesy visit to the Karachi residence of former Member of the National Assembly and Chairman of the Ibrat Group, Kazi Asad Abid on Friday. Dr. Bajwa enquired about his health and extended heartfelt prayers for his well-being. The meeting reflected mutual respect and long-standing camaraderie, with both expressing hopes for each other’s continued well-being and good health in the days ahead.—RT

Milk Mafia Crackdown: 20 Shops Sealed for Selling Adulterated Milk in Karachi



KARACHI: The city administration, in collaboration with the Food Authority, sealed 20 shops selling adulterated milk—seven each in Central and Korangi districts, and six in Malir. Lab tests confirmed the presence of formalin in samples tested at PSQCA labs. One shopkeeper was fined Rs50,000 and arrested for reopening a sealed outlet. Officials warned that formalin-tainted milk poses severe health risks, damaging internal organs. The crackdown aims to ensure the supply of safe milk across Karachi.—RT/Agency

Three Years On: Karachi Pays Tribute to Folk Poet Mama Juman Darbar



KARACHI: The Sindh Cultural Forum celebrated the third anniversary of folk poet Mama Juman Darbar at Awami Press Club Malir, with large participation from poets, writers, journalists, and social activists. Speakers paid tribute to his poetry, nationalism, and love for Sindh. Born Abdul Rasheed Sand in 1944, Darbar’s works highlighted homeland, love, and spirituality. His poetry, sung by artists like Shafiq, remains cherished. The event emphasized preserving his literary legacy for future generations.

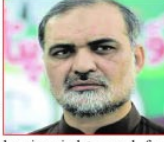
Sharjeel says PPP’s Taj Haider Bridge Will ‘Transform Karachi’s Transport Future’



KARACHI: Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon announced the completion of the Senator Taj Haider Bridge, a key project under the PPP-led Sindh government. Part of the Yellow Line BRT, the bridge aims to ease traffic with eight lanes and a dedicated cyclist track. Memon emphasized the introduction of EV buses, which will improve air quality and public transport. The PPP is rapidly enhancing Karachi’s infrastructure, ensuring comfortable, affordable, and eco-friendly travel for the city’s residents, particularly those in Korangi and nearby areas.—RT

Jamaat-e-Islami Promises ‘Rightful Karachi’ Movement Gaining Momentum

KARACHI: Addressing the inauguration of a model neighborhood in UC-6 Gulnabi Society, JI Karachi chief Munim Zafar Khan said Karachi is the country’s lifeline but its residents remain deprived of basic rights and facilities. He pledged to continue serving citizens across nine towns despite limited resources, vowing to reclaim the city’s rightful share in governance and development.—RT/Agency



Noor-e-Hidayat Academy Distributes Food Relief to 80 Families in Karachi



By Fida Hussain Panhwar
KARACHI: Under the “Mahnat Kash Relief” program, Noor-e-Hidayat Academy distributed ration goods at an 80% discount to 80 families in Malir Khokhrapar, Karachi. The initiative, led by Dr. Anjum Azam from abroad and implemented locally by Muhammad Zeeshan, Begum Zeeshan, and their daughters, aims to support the poor and needy. Social leaders, including Zahid Rahim, Shahid Jan, Liaquat Mandokhail, and Wahab Hussain, attended the event and praised Dr. Azam’s commitment to humanity, emphasizing that while platforms differ, the goal remains the same: serving humanity without discrimination or selfish motives.—RT/Agency

Sindh’s Soul Shines: Sufi Raag Rang Night Showcases Love, Harmony & Culture

By Dildar Seelo
KARACHI: A captivating Sufi Raag Rang musical night, organized by Iqbal Hussain Channa, patron of the Ameer Bux Memorial Trust, was held at PIDC Society, Karachi, celebrating Sindh’s rich culture, spirituality, and message of peace. The event was graced by PPP Sindh President Nisar Ahmed Khuroo, Rauf Nagori, Iqbal Sand, Taj Muhammad Wassan, Hussain Bux Narejo, and others. Sufi artists Rajab Faqir, Faqir Sattar Jogi, and Faqir Majeed Siyal mesmerized the audience with soulful performances. Nisar Khuroo said, “Sindh is the land where hatred ends and love begins.” Channa added that such cultural nights revive Sindh’s traditions and strengthen harmony and national unity.

Mustafa Kamal Alleges National Health Crisis: ‘Sewage Mixed Water Used Across Pakistan’

KARACHI: Federal Health Minister Mustafa Kamal criticized the abysmal state of Pakistan’s sewage treatment system—only “sick water is being used from Gilgit to Karachi. Addressing a Pink Day event at a prison hospital, he said Pakistan is fast becoming the world’s most populous coun-try, noting that healthcare at birth, childhood, and adulthood is a privilege, not a right. He warned that Pakistan’s sewage treatment system—only “sick water is being used from Gilgit to Karachi. Addressing a Pink Day event at a prison hospital, he said Pakistan is fast becoming the world’s most populous coun-try, noting that healthcare at birth, childhood, and adulthood is a privilege, not a right. He warned that Pakistan’s sewage treatment system—only “sick water is being used from Gilgit to Karachi. Addressing a Pink Day event at a prison hospital, he said Pakistan is fast becoming the world’s most populous coun-try, noting that healthcare at birth, childhood, and adulthood is a privilege, not a right. 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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 26 2025

North Waziristan: Security Forces Kill Three Militants, Foil Major Terror Plot — ISPR

KP: Security forces foiled a major terrorist plot by killing three terrorists who were preparing a vehicle-borne suicide bomber in the Jhalla area of North Waziristan district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Saturday.

Security forces destroyed the vehicle being prepared for the suicide attack during the intelligence-based operation (IBO) carried out on Friday in the KP's district, the military's media wing said.

"During the conduct of operation, own troops effectively engaged kharaj (terrorists) location and through



precise and skillful engagement, destroyed the vehicle being prepared for the suicide attack and also eliminated three Indian-sponsored kharaj," the ISPR security read.

Following the IBO, security forces launched a sanitation operation to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area.

The "precise engagement" comes as security forces have intensified efforts to eradicate terrorism under the Azm-e-Istehkam operation.

Pakistan has faced increased cross-border terrorist incidents since the Taliban regime returned to power in Afghanistan in 2021.

KP and Balochistan, the two bordering provinces, have borne the brunt of these attacks.

KP alone recorded over 600 terrorist incidents, in which at least 79 police personnel were martyred alongside 138 civilians, during the first eight months of 2025, according to a police report.

Pakistan has consistently urged the Afghan Taliban to abide by the Doha agreement in 2020, in which they committed to not allowing their

soil to be used against any country.

Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif recently termed the cross-border terrorism issue the key reason behind the tensions between the two neighbouring countries.

In an interview with Al-Jazeera Arabic, Asif said that ongoing negotiations with the Afghan Taliban regime were mainly focused on eliminating terrorism. Admitting the effects of terrorism on the border areas of both Pakistan and Afghanistan, he said that the immediate elimination of terrorism was essential. —RT/Agency

Defence Minister Vows Revival of PIA as Airline Restores UK Flight Operations After 5 Years

UK: In a positive development, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has reaffirmed the government's commitment to making Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) a profitable and competitive organisation as the national flag carrier resumed weekly flights to the United Kingdom (UK) today (Saturday) after a hiatus of five years.

The defence czar made the remarks while speaking during an inauguration ceremony at the Islamabad International Airport to mark the resumption of PIA's flight operations to the United Kingdom.

PIA's flight PK-701 of Boeing 777 departed from Islamabad airport to Manchester. The flight will land at 5pm PST after a non-stop flight of around five hours.

A special ceremony will



also be held at Manchester Airport to welcome the inaugural flight, said a PIA spokesperson.

Britain lifted the five-year ban in July this year, allowing Pakistani airlines to apply to restart UK flights. The flight resumption became possible after PIA received Third Country Operator (TCO) approval from British authorities last month.

Addressing the ceremony today, Asif said the

suspension of PIA's UK operations had caused significant financial losses to the government, but added that the airline's standards had now been restored. "We have successfully reinstated the quality and credibility of our national airline," he added. The federal defence commended the efforts of Pakistan's diplomatic staff, saying their tireless work had played a crucial role in lifting the ban. —RT/Agency

President, PM Praise Security Forces for Successful Anti-Terror Operation in Tank

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif jointly praised Pakistan's security forces for a successful counter-terrorism operation in Tank, hailing the action as a major blow to militants they say were operating with Indian support and pledging to continue efforts to eradicate the menace of terrorism from the country. President Zardari, in a separate statement issued by the Presidency, commended the professionalism and bravery of security personnel involved in the Tank operation



and reaffirmed his full support for the government's counter-terrorism campaign, naming it "Operation Azm-e-Istehkam." The president described terrorism as a

scourge whose elimination requires the nation's full backing of the security forces and vowed that the sacrifices made for Pakistan's peace and stability "will not go in vain." —RT/Agency

Customs Quetta Seizes Rs18.6 Billion Worth of Crystal Ice in Massive Smuggling Bust



ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) announced that the Customs Enforcement team in Quetta has successfully foiled an attempt to smuggle crystal ice worth billions of rupees. According to the FBR, 300 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine (ice) were concealed inside a modified fuel tank of a truck traveling from Taftan to Quetta. Acting on a tip-off from the Collector of Customs (Enforcement) Quetta, the Field Enforcement Unit in Noshki conducted the operation that led to the major drug bust. —RT/Agency

Pakistan Calls Out Indian Media for Spreading 'Dangerous Regional Disinformation'

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of Pakistan has once again exposed the nefarious tactics of Indian media in spreading misinformation and fostering instability in the region. In a detailed statement, the ministry condemned the false and misleading reports propagated by Indian news outlets, particularly NDTV and Republic News India, accusing them of promoting hatred and discord in the region. The statement specifically highlighted a recent claim made



by NDTV, which falsely stated that on October 8, militants from the Khorasani faction had ambushed and martyred 22 Pakistani soldiers in Kurram. The Inter-

Services Public Relations (ISPR) swiftly rejected this claim, clarifying that the operation was carried out in Orakzai, not Kurram, on October 7 and 8. —RT/Agency

IHC to Hear Petition Seeking to Block Imran's X Account on November 4



ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court has scheduled a hearing for the petition seeking to block the X (formerly Twitter) account of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan.

The petition, filed by a concerned citizen, will be

heard on November 4, 2025 by IHC's Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir. The court has issued notices to Imran Khan, the National Cyber Crime Agency, the superintendent of Jail, and other parties involved, asking for their responses. —RT/Agency

Violence, Racism & Neo-Nazi Ideology Take Over Toxic US Political Group Chats



US: Three separate controversies involving leaked text messages from private online group chats have rocked US political circles this month, revealing racist, antisemitic, and violent statements from figures across the ideological spectrum. The messages — sent privately but now public — include racial slurs, praise for Nazis, and threats of political violence, raising questions about why those involved felt comfortable expressing such views despite the risk of exposure and censure. —RT/Agency

At UN, Pakistan Condemns India's Persecution of Muslims, Christians and Sikhs

NEW YORK: Pakistan strongly condemned India's treatment of its religious minorities, emphasizing that Muslims, Christians, and Sikhs are facing increasing persecution within the country.

The remarks were made by Gul Qaiser Sarwani, Counsellor and Political Coordinator of the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN, in response to the assertions made by India's representative.

During his address, Sarwani highlighted the continued violence and discrimina-



tion faced by minority groups in India, with specific references to Muslims being lynched in public, Christians attacked in their places of worship, and Sikhs facing demonization for their faith. He pointed to past violent episodes such as the 2002 Gujarat riots, the 1984 anti-Sikh violence, and ongoing religious violence in Delhi and Manipur. —RT/Agency

Dar Meets UN Envoy; Pakistan Pledges Stronger National Road Safety Reforms

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister (DPM/FM), Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to advancing road safety and reducing traffic-related fatalities across the country during his meeting

with the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety, Jean Todt. During the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister Dar commended UN Special Envoy Todt for his distinguished career in motorsport, philanthropy, and his significant contributions to promoting global road safety, a DPM's office news release said. He noted that Pakistan attaches great importance to the UN's efforts to make roads safer worldwide and expressed appreciation for the Envoy's initiatives. —RT/Agency

PPP's Shazia Marri Denies Any Agreement to Install PML-N Government in Balochistan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians (PPP) leader Shazia Marri said on Saturday that no understanding had been reached regarding the formation of a Pakistan Muslim League (N) (PML-N) government in Balochistan in her statement, the PPP's central spokesperson said that when decisions on official development programmes are made behind closed doors, it is wrong. She



remarked that if PPP members do not attend the Assembly, then their quorum cannot be met and sessions have to be postponed. She noted that when Shehbaz Sharif came to the PPP seeking to become

prime minister, some matters had been settled. In the session of the party's Executive Council, members voiced their reservations about the government, following which President Asif Ali Zardari took responsibility that whatever agreements had been made would be honoured, however, no agreement had been made about the PML-N forming a government in Balochistan. —RT/Agency

Thailand Mourns Loss of Former Queen Sirikit at 93



Thailand's former Queen Sirikit, mother of the current King Vajiralongkorn and wife of the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej, passed away late Friday at 93. Revered as a national matriarch, Sirikit was known for her elegance, fashion sense, and philanthropic work. Her legacy, compared to Jackie Kennedy's, remains ingrained in the hearts of the Thai people. The royal family's profound influence on the nation has made her passing a significant moment in Thai history. —RT

Veteran Actor Satish Shah Dies at 74 After Battling Kidney Failure



INDIA: Iconic actor Satish Shah, famed for his role in Sarabhai vs Sarabhai, passed away at 74 due to kidney failure. The news was confirmed by Ashoke Pandit via Instagram, mourning the loss of a beloved actor. Shah's contributions to TV and film left an indelible mark on Indian entertainment. —RT

ISPR DG Holds Direct Dialogue with Students and Scholars in Mardan

RAWALPINDI: Director General of Inter-Services Public Relations (DG ISPR), Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry, held an interactive session with teachers and students from various universities and seminaries in Mardan on Saturday. Participants included representatives from Abdul Wali Khan University, Women University, University of Engineering and Technology, and several madaris (religious seminaries). During the session, Lt Gen Chaudhry discussed several key topics, including Operation Marg Bar Kharij, recent Pakistan-Afghanistan tensions, and the overall security situation in the region.

He emphasised that Pakistan has taken effective measures against terrorism and extremism



elements, adding that in the face of any aggression from the enemy, the Pakistan Army and the nation will stand together as an unbreakable wall. On this occasion, students and teachers paid rich tribute to the country's martyrs and heroes. The teachers remarked that the ISPR DG's address had cleared many misconceptions about the Pakistan Armed Forces, saying the nation

deeply values the army's role in peacebuilding and national development. The students stated that the youth of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa stand shoulder to shoulder with the Pakistan Army for the nation's security and stability. They said they now better understand how hostile elements use social media to spread propaganda against Pakistan and its forces. —RT/Agency

Putin Envoy Says US, Ukraine and Russia 'Near Diplomatic Breakthrough'

US: Kirill Dmitriev, Russian President Vladimir Putin's special envoy for investment and economic cooperation, said he believes his country, the United States and Ukraine are close to a diplomatic solution to end Russia's war in Ukraine.

Speaking to CNN after arriving in Washington for talks with US officials, Dmitriev said that a meeting between Donald Trump and Putin had not been cancelled, as the US president described it, and that the two leaders will likely meet at a later date.

The planned summit was put on hold on Tuesday, as Russia's rejection of an immediate ceasefire cast a cloud over attempts at negotiations. Trump said he can-



celled the planned meeting with Putin in Budapest because of a lack of progress in diplomatic efforts toward ending the war and a sense that the timing was off. However, Dmitriev said, "I believe Russia and the US and Ukraine are actually quite close to a diplomatic solution." Dmitriev, in his comments, did not offer details of what this would entail. European nations are working with Ukraine on a new proposal for a ceasefire in the war along current battle lines, European diplomats told Reuters this week, mainly incorporating ideas already under discussion while pressing to keep the United States in a central role. —RT/Agency

Trump Eyes Major Deal with China's Xi During Upcoming Asia Visit

US: US President Donald Trump will test his deal-making capabilities on a trip to Asia, a region battered by his hardball trade policies, while doubts hang over his highly anticipated meeting with China's Xi Jinping. Trump, who left Washington on night, is set for a five-

day trip to Malaysia, Japan and South Korea, his first to the region and longest journey abroad since taking office in January. The Republican leader hopes to pile up trade, critical mineral and ceasefire deals before turning to the toughest challenge, a face-to-face with Xi on Thursday in South Korea. Trump is also looking to maintain the signature foreign policy achievement of his second term, a fragile ceasefire he helped to strike in the Israel-Gaza conflict, while the Russian war in Ukraine rages and a trade war with China shows little sign of ending. —RT/Agency