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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

## Senator Rubio Says US Looking To Broaden Strategic Ties With Pakistan

WASHINGTON: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said that Washington sees "an opportunity to expand its strategic relationship with Pakistan," stressing that this engagement is not at the expense of America's friendship with India.

During a press briefing, Secretary Rubio was asked whether India had expressed concerns over Washington's growing strategic engagement and stronger relations with Pakistan.

"They really haven't – I mean, we know they're concerned for obvious reasons because of the tensions that have existed between Pakistan and India historically," he said, according to the transcript of the briefing on the State Department's website.

He noted that India has to understand that the United States must maintain relations with multiple partners.

"We see an opportunity to expand our strategic relationship with Pakistan," Rubio said, adding that this was part of Washington's broader policy to work with nations where common interests align.

He reiterated that America's evolving ties with Pakistan would not undermine its relationship with India, which he described as "deep, historic, and important."

When asked whether the relations stemmed from Islamabad's appreciation of Washington's role in helping avert a potential war between India and Pakistan, Rubio said the renewed engagement with Pakistan had begun even before the conflict, as the US had expressed interest in rebuilding a "strategic partnership" with Islamabad.

He noted that both sides had a long history of cooperation, particularly in counterterrorism, and that Washington was keen to expand the relationship beyond security matters.—RT/Agency

## President Zardari And PM Shehbaz Consult On Formation Of AJK Government

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari spoke by telephone with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to discuss the political situation in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), sources told Geo News on Sunday, as the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) moves to form a new government in the territory.

According to sources, President Zardari took Prime Minister Shehbaz into confidence over the PPP's decision and the strategy for government formation in AJK.

After the call, the prime minister tasked the PML-N committee on AJK affairs — chaired by Ahsan Iqbal and including Rana Sanaullah and Amir Muqam — with holding talks with the PPP. The committee has begun consultations with the PML-N's AJK chapter, the sources added.

Separately, PML-N parliamentary leader and former AJK prime minister Raja Farooq Haider reiterated his party's stance that it will sit in opposition and will not be part of any government formation in AJK.

He told the party's parliamentary meeting that the decision to remain in opposition stands and there is no room for change.'Backing Anwarul Haq was a mistake'Speaking to media, PML-N AJK President Shah Ghulam Qadir admitted that supporting PM Anwar was a "mistake", echoing earlier remarks by Haider.

Qadir said that time had proven their decision wrong, as PM Anwar chose to rely on individual lawmakers rather than political parties.

He reiterated that the PML-N legislators would not cast their votes in anyone's favour, adding that any group capable of securing a majority was free to form the government.—RT/Agency

## Critical Political Huddle At Jati Umra As Shehbaz Meets Nawaz

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif held a crucial meeting with Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz Sharif at Jati Umra, where the two leaders discussed the current political and economic situation in the country. The meeting, which also included Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, revolved around several key national issues.

During the conversation, Nawaz Sharif emphasized the need to strengthen the national economy, highlighting that the country is steadily progressing toward development. He praised the hard work and efforts of his brother, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, stating that his tireless dedication is being acknowledged internationally. Nawaz further acknowledged the critical role played by Maryam Nawaz in improving law and order in Punjab, pointing out that under her leadership, the province is making significant strides in terms of progress and security.The discussion also touched upon the country's economic challenges, with both leaders reiterating the importance of collective efforts to stabilize and grow the national economy. The PML-N leadership delved into party matters, as well, seeking ways to further strengthen internal cohesion and prepare for upcoming political challenges.Maryam Nawaz's growing influence in Punjab was highlighted as a key factor in the party's success in the province, where she has led several initiatives to address governance issues and improve public welfare. The meeting underscored the leadership's determination to steer the country toward economic recovery while reinforcing their political position ahead of future elections.—RT/Agency

## CJP Afridi Calls For Transparency And Efficiency Across Justice System

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Yahya Afridi has emphasised that transparency, accessibility and efficiency remain the highest priorities in the justice system.According to a Supreme Court press release, CJP Afridi said that the digital era launched with the Supreme Court Rules 2025, praising the judges and institutions for their role in implementing judicial reforms. CJP Afridi said that historic reforms have been introduced in judicial laws for the first time in 45 years.He said that a memorandum of understanding has been signed with China's highest court, while a similar agreement with Turkiye's Constitutional Court is in its final stages. To safeguard judicial independence, the SC has introduced new institutional procedures and resolved more than 27,000 cases this year.The CJP added that old cases involving the death penalty and life imprisonment have been concluded, and only cases filed under the 2025 rules are now under consideration.—RT/Agency

## Talks Resume In Istanbul After Pakistan's Strong Response To Taliban Delegation

ISTANBUL: Talks between delegations from Pakistan and Afghanistan resumed in Istanbul after Islamabad submitted its reply to the Taliban regime's response to its counterterrorism plan, sources said on Sunday.

Turkish intelligence chief Ibrahim Kalin is mediating the second round of the Istanbul talks, which began hours after the Pakistani delegation responded to the Taliban delegation's submission of a reply to their suggestions, they added.

In the first phase of the talks in Istanbul on Saturday, Pakistan submitted a counterterrorism plan to the Afghan Taliban in an effort to address cross-border terrorism emanating from the Afghan soil.

Kabul responded to the plan at 2am late Sunday night.

The negotiations in Istanbul, Turkiye, are the second round of the peace talks, which began between the two nations in Qatar's Doha on October 19.

Mediated by Qatar and Turkiye, the first round of talks saw the two sides agree to a ceasefire, following intense border clashes, instigated by the Taliban regime.

Pakistan launched a retaliatory campaign after the Taliban, aided by their affiliated militants, resorted to unprovoked firing along the border.

Pakistan Armed Forces repelled multiple attacks on their border posts, killing over 200 Taliban and affiliated militants. However, 23 soldiers embraced martyrdom during the border clashes.

Pakistan also conducted "precision strikes" in Afghanistan's Kandahar province and Kabul, destroying terrorists' multiple strongholds.

Following the clashes, Pakistan closed its border crossings with the neighbouring country, saying that the lives of Pakistanis were more important than the movement of goods or trade.Meanwhile, Islamabad continues to raise its concerns over the Taliban regime acting as an Indian proxy against it.—RT/Agency

## PPP Poised to Form AJK Government As PTI Forward Bloc Defects

ISLAMABAD: Amid ongoing efforts to form its government in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) further strengthened its position as it gained the support of several Legislative Assembly members from the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) forward bloc on Sunday.

This development came ahead of a meeting between the PPP and PML-N's top leadership scheduled for Monday, in which they are expected to finalise decisions regarding the formation of the AJK government.

The PPP's strength in the AJK Legislative Assembly rose from 17 to 27 after 10 PTI lawmakers joined its ranks.

The Bilawal Bhutto-led party, a key ally of the PML-N in the Centre, achieved the required number to form its government in the autonomous region within a day after President Asif Ali Zardari announced the potential political move.

The PTI legislators announced their decision to join the PPP in a meeting at Zardari House, Islamabad, with Faryal Talpur — president of the PPP Women's Wing and sister of President Zardari — and senior leader Chaudhry Riaz.

Among those who joined the PPP were Muhammad Hussain, Chaudhry Yasir, Chaudhry Muhammad Akhlaq, Chaudhry Arshad, Chaudhry Muhammad Rasheed, AJK Higher Education Minister Zafar Iqbal Malik, Faheem Akhtar Rabbani, Abdul Majid Khan, Muhammad Akbar Ibrahim, and Asim Sharif Butt.

PPP leaders welcomed the new members, pledging to continue their struggle for the political and economic rights of the people of AJK.

Sources closer to the PPP told media that the Bilawal Bhutto-led party was confident of forming its government in the AJK without the PML-N's support.—RT/Agency

## Trump Begins Asia Tour With Grand Welcome Ceremony In Malaysia

U.S. President Donald Trump received a grand reception upon his arrival in Malaysia, where he was warmly greeted at the airport. Traditional dancers performed a vibrant cultural dance, which delighted the American president, prompting him to join in the festivities and even dance along. During the welcome ceremony, Trump proudly waved both the U.S. and Malaysian flags, symbolizing the strong diplomatic ties between the two nations.This visit marks the first phase of Trump's tour across Asia. During his travels, he is set to attend a signing ceremony for a comprehensive peace agreement between Cambodia and Thailand. After his time in Malaysia, Trump will head to Japan, where he will meet with the country's newly elected Prime Minister, Sanai Takaiichi.The tour will continue with a visit to South Korea, where Trump is expected to hold a significant meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping. As the region watches closely, this tour reflects America's ongoing diplomatic efforts in Asia.—RT/Agency

## Trump Again Claims He Can Swiftly Resolve Pakistan–Afghanistan Conflict

Kuala Lumpur: US President Donald Trump on Sunday said he would "quickly resolve" the Pakistan-Afghanistan conflict, praising Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Field Marshal Asim Munir as "great people."

Trump made the remarks while addressing the signing ceremony of a Thailand-Cambodia peace deal on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur.

Border crossings between the two countries have remained closed since October 11, following clashes earlier this month that killed dozens on both sides in the worst fighting since the Taliban's 2021 takeover of Kabul.The border clashes were triggered after Islamabad demanded that Kabul control militants who attack Pakistan across their shared border, saying they operated from havens in Afghanistan. A ceasefire was agreed in talks hosted by Qatar and Turkiye last weekend and is holding between the two sides.

During the second round of talks in Istanbul, Pakistan has handed over a comprehensive counterterrorism plan to the Afghan Taliban, sources said.

Referring to recent border tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan, Trump said he was confident of helping the two sides reach peace."... we're averaging one a month. There is only one left, although I heard that Pakistan and Afghanistan have started up. But I'll get that solved very quickly. I know them both. And the Field Marshal, and the Prime Minister are great people, and I have no doubt we're going to get that done quickly."The US president further said he viewed peacebuilding as a priority. "If I can take time and save millions of lives, that's really a great thing," he remarked, adding that, unlike other presidents, he focused on ending wars rather than starting them."I can't think of any president who ever solved one war. They start wars. They don't solve them," he added.Meanwhile, the leaders of Thailand and Cambodia signed an enhanced ceasefire deal on Sunday in the presence of Trump, whose intervention in their fierce border conflict earned him a Nobel Peace Prize nomination.—RT/Agency

## Pakistan Forces Crush Border Infiltration Attempt, 25 Militants Killed In Major Operation

KP: According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), Pakistan's security forces successfully thwarted attempts to infiltrate the Pak-Afghan border, killing 25 Khawarij terrorists in a timely and effective operation. The forces carried out operations in Kurram and North Waziristan, eliminating the threat posed by these militants.

The ISPR spokesperson confirmed that 15 terrorists were killed in a targeted operation in the Spinwam area of North Waziristan, while 10 more were killed during an operation in the Ghaki area of Kurram. Explosive materials, weapons, and other equipment were recovered from the bodies of the slain militants, providing critical evidence of their malicious intent.

A clearance operation is ongoing to eliminate the remaining terrorists in the area. While these operations were successful, the military suffered the loss of five brave soldiers, who embraced martyrdom while defending the nation. The deaths of these soldiers underscore the risks faced by Pakistan's armed forces in maintaining security along the volatile border region.

The operations reflect the Pakistani military's unwavering resolve to combat terrorism and secure the country's borders from external threats, particularly as cross-border militancy remains a significant challenge. These successful strikes also send a strong message to terrorist organizations attempting to exploit the region's instability. The military's commitment to protecting the nation and ensuring peace remains steadfast, even at great personal cost.—RT/Agency

## Netanyahu Declares Israel Will Decide Which International Forces Are Allowed

TEL AVIV: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that as a sovereign state, Israel would determine its security policy and which foreign forces to work with.

"We control our own security and we have made clear to international forces that Israel will decide which forces are unacceptable to us — and that is how we act and will continue to act," Netanyahu said at the outset of a cabinet meeting.

"This is, of course, accepted by the United States, as its most senior representatives expressed in recent days."—RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND

## Matiari Police Tighten the Net with Citywide Snap Checks to Reinforce Order

By Sajjad Ali Abbasi

MATIARI: Acting on the directives of SSP Matiari Muhammad Arif Aslam Rao, a comprehensive general hold-up and snap checking operation is underway across the district.

The checking and search operations are being conducted under the supervision of SDPOs at all key locations to further strengthen law and order and ensure timely prevention of crimes.

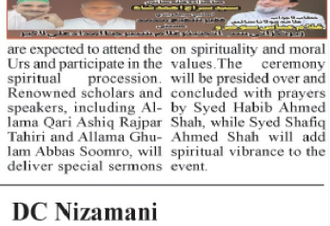
Heavy police contingents have been deployed at entry and exit points, highways, hotels, rest houses, and other important places to maintain security.

Police teams are utilizing app-based biometric and digital verification devices to check suspicious individuals, vehicles, and motorcycles, aiming to promptly foil any illegal or suspicious activities.

SSP Muhammad Arif Aslam Rao has instructed officers and personnel stationed at checkpoints to remain alert and perform their duties with utmost dedication.

## Devotees Set to Gather for 35th Urs of Hazrat Sakhi Baba Rehmani Sarkar in Sita Road on Oct 28

By Zain-ul-Abideen Samoon



SITA ROAD: The 35th annual Urs of the revered Sufi saint Hazrat Sakhi Baba Rehmani Sarkar (RA) will be celebrated with great devotion and reverence on Tuesday, October 28 at his historic shrine in Sita Road. Preparations for the grand spiritual event are in full swing, with a series of traditional and religious programs planned.

As in previous years, thousands of devotees, followers, and visitors from across the region are expected to attend the Urs and participate in the spiritual procession. Renowned scholars and speakers, including Allama Qari Ashiq Rajpar Tahiri and Allama Ghulam Abbas Soomro, will deliver special sermons on spirituality and moral values.The ceremony will be presided over and concluded with prayers by Syed Habib Ahmed Shah, while Syed Shafiq Ahmed Shah will add spiritual vibrance to the event.

## DC Nizamani Inspects MDCAT Arrangements at QUEST Nawabshah

By Samad Ayaz Dahri

NAWABSHAH:Deputy Commissioner Shaheed Benazirabad Abdul Samad Nizamani visited the MDCAT 2025 Test Center at Quaid-e-Awam University of Engineering, Science & Technology (QUEST) Nawabshah, where the examination organized by IBA Sukkur was underway for admissions to public and private medical universities and colleges.

During the visit, DC Nizamani inspected the arrangements, including security measures, medical and rescue camps, and other essential facilities, expressing satisfaction over the overall management.

According to Test Center Incharge Professor Dr. Manzoor Mirani, a total of 2,488 candidates from Shaheed Benazirabad Division appeared for the test. He added that all necessary arrangements were made to ensure a transparent and smooth examination process.

## Gambat Residents Rise Up Against Crime Wave, Demand Swift Restoration of Peace

By Muhammad Dano Lakho

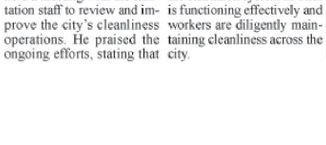
KHAIRPUR: Citizens of Gambat staged a strong protest and shutter-down strike in the Shahi Bazaar area against the worsening law and order situation in the city. Protesters complained that neither homes nor shops were safe, and despite repeated complaints, the police failed to reach crime scenes or take any meaningful action.

Participants, including Asadullah Sheikh, Ehtisham-ul-Haq, Ubaidullah Sheikh, Sajad Sheikh, Kanhaiya Lal, Salman Atif Mughal, Imran Mughal, and others, said that criminal activities had sharply increased in Gambat, alleging that some police personnel were complicit in crimes.

They noted that recently, unknown thieves broke into two shops in Shahi Bazaar and looted goods worth millions of rupees. In separate incidents, robbers stole 20 tolas of gold and other valuables from the house of Professor Liaquat Firdousi, and 13 tolas of gold from Dr. Nazir Mangi's residence.

## Protest Erupts Over Delay in Arrest of Driver Accused in Laborer's Death

By Khadim Hussain Sheikh



NINDO:Members of the Khaskheli-Rajooni Ittehad held a protest outside the Nindo Press Club, demanding the arrest of the driver responsible for the death of laborer Gulzar Khaskheli, who was fatally hit by a car near Nindo a week ago. Led by Ameen Khaskheli, Jaman Khaskheli, and Fayaz Khaskheli, protesters accused the Nindo Police of negligence for failing to arrest the accused despite repeated appeals. They warned of district-wide demonstrations if justice is delayed and urged SSP Badin Qamar Raza Jiskani to ensure the culprit's immediate arrest and justice for the victim's family.

## Thul Municipal Chief Orders Aggressive Cleanliness Drive Ahead of Public Complaints

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: Chairman of Thul Municipal Committee, Sardarzada Shahzeb Khan Sarki, held a meeting with the sanitation staff to review and improve the city's cleanliness operations. He praised the ongoing efforts, stating that the sanitation system in Thul is functioning effectively and workers are diligently maintaining cleanliness across the city.

## Three Jhudo Students Complete Quranic Hifz at Madrassa Taleem-ul-Quran

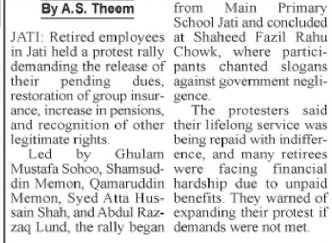
By Shahid Majeed

JHUDO:A graceful ceremony was held at Madrassa Taleem-ul-Quran for Girls, Jhuddo, to celebrate the completion of Nazra Quran education by three girls — Ashfa Aftab, Hadiya Aftab, and Mah Noor Majeeb Memon. The event was organized to honor the students' achievement, attended by their parents and notable citizens of the town.

Addressing the gathering, Khadim of the Madrassa Hafiz Faiz Muhammad Memon Sikandari emphasized the importance of Quranic and Prophetic teachings in today's materialistic age, especially for girls who, he said, play a vital role in nurturing families and building a morally strong society.

The ceremony concluded with Durood-o-Salaam and a special prayer for the progress and prosperity of Jhudo city and the entire nation.

## Retired Government Employees in Jati Rally for Pending Pensions and Relief



By A.S. Theem

JATI: Retired employees in Jati held a protest rally demanding the release of their pending dues, restoration of group insurance, increase in pensions, and recognition of other legitimate rights.

Led by Ghulam Mustafa Sohoo, Shamsuddin Memon, Qamaruddin Memon, Syed Atta Hussain Shah, and Abdul Razzaq Lund, the rally began from Main Primary School Jati and concluded at Shaheed Fazil Rahu Chowk, where participants chanted slogans against government negligence.

The protesters said their lifelong service was being repaid with indifference, and many retirees were facing financial hardship due to unpaid benefits. They warned of expanding their protest if demands were not met.

## Majalis-e-Ayyam-e-Fatimiya to Begin in Tando Adam Honoring Sayyida Fatima Zahra (S.A.)

By Dildar Ali Samo

TANDO ADAM: In remembrance of the martyrdom of the beloved daughter of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), Sayyida Fatima Zahra (S.A.), Majalis-e-Ayyam-e-Fatimiya will be organized under the auspices of Anjuman Safina-e-Ahle Bait (A.S.) Azadari Wing Tando Adam from 12th Jamad-ul-Awal at various Imambargahs across the city.

These sacred gatherings aim to pay profound tribute to the Lady of Light (S.A.) while spreading awareness about her piety, struggles, and her pivotal role in upholding the true essence of Islam.

The program will include recitation of the Holy Quran, Marsiya and Noha Khwani, as well as addresses by prominent Zakireen and Ulema focusing on the life, character, and trials of Bibi Fatima Zahra (S.A.). Each majlis will conclude with Matam and Dua-e-Imame-Zamana (A.J.T.F.), with the faithful urged to attend in large numbers.

## Pakistan Sunni Tehreek Sounds Alarm Over Rapid Dengue Spread in Hyderabad

By Afaq Ahmed Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The President of Pakistan Sunni Tehreek Hyderabad Division, Muhammad Abid Qadri Bhai, and the City President of Tando Allahyar, Nazir Ahmed Kamboh Bhai, expressed serious concern in a joint press statement over the alarming spread of dengue virus in Hyderabad.

Muhammad Abid Qadri Bhai said that dengue fever has claimed the lives of 10 to 12 people in Hyderabad so far, and the virus is spreading rapidly across the city. He added that both government and private hospitals have failed to provide proper medical treatment to patients, as no adequate facilities are being supplied by the government.

He lamented that although government hospitals receive funds and medicines every month, doctors still direct patients to purchase medicines and even basic items like cannulas from private medical stores. He urged the authorities to take immediate and effective action to control the spread of the virus and ensure medical facilities are made available to the affected citizens.

## Sindh United Party Gears Up Base-Level Strengthening in Thul Meeting

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: A meeting of the Sindh United Party (SUP) Thul Taluka was held under the chairmanship of newly elected President Abdullah Buriro, attended by central leader Comrade Jamal Josh Buriro, along with numerous office-bearers and workers. During the session, new UC and ward-level appointments were finalized.

Newly elected representatives pledged to further organize and strengthen the party and continue the struggle for the rights of the oppressed. Addressing the participants, Comrade Jamal Josh Buriro said that the SUP is the true representative of public rights, committed to advancing the struggle for social justice and national identity. On this occasion, Ustad Noor Muhammad Chhano formally announced his inclusion in the SUP, expressing full confidence in the party's leadership. Party leaders and workers warmly welcomed his decision.

## LUMHS and Aga Khan University Spotlight Breakthroughs in Breast Imaging, Early Cancer Detection

By Muqerm Keerio

HYDERABAD: The Department of Radiology, Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences (LUMHS), Jamshoro, in collaboration with Aga Khan University, Karachi, organized a one-day seminar titled "From Pixels to Diagnosis: Breast Imaging Made Clear."

Dr. Adnan Ahmed Qureshi, Chairman, Department of Radiology, LUMHS, welcomed the guests and read out a special message from Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Ikram Din Ujjan.

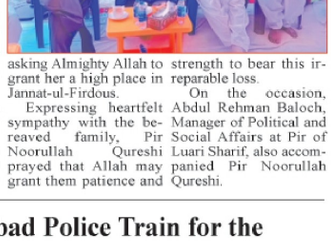
In his message, Dr. Ujjan emphasized that breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in Pakistan, affecting 1 in 9 women — the highest rate in Asia. He urged women to adopt a healthy lifestyle, perform regular self-examinations, and undergo timely mammograms for early detection.

Prof. Dr. Ambreen Muneer, Consultant Breast Surgeon at LUMHS, highlighted that early detection through advanced screening techniques significantly improves survival outcomes.

Experts from Aga Khan University, including Dr. Shaista Afzal, Dr. Gulnaz Shafqat, and Dr. Seema Nayab, along with Prof. Dr. Ghulam Qadir Bulidi of Bilawal Medical College, delivered technical sessions on mammography, ultrasound, and digital breast tomosynthesis.

## Pir Noorullah Qureshi Condoles Passing of Sindh Minister Ismail Rahu's Sister

By Khadim Hussain Sheikh



KADHAN:Prominent social and political figure, and former Special Assistant to the Sindh Chief Minister, Pir Noorullah Qureshi, visited Sindh Minister Muhammad Ismail Rahu and Muhammad Aslam Rahu to offer condolences on the sad demise of their sister, Hasna Rahu, who lost her life in a tragic road accident near Khorwah Chowk on the Badin–Karachi Road.

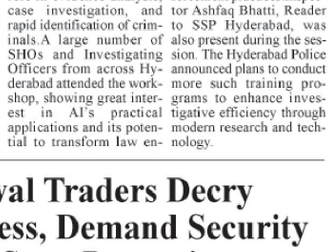
Pir Noorullah Qureshi recited Fateha and prayed for the departed soul, asking Almighty Allah to grant her a high place in Jannat-ul-Firdous.

Expressing heartfelt sympathy with the bereaved family, Pir Noorullah Qureshi prayed that Allah may grant them patience and strength to bear this irreparable loss.

On the occasion, Abdul Rehman Baloch, Manager of Political and Social Affairs at Pir of Luari Sharif, also accompanied Pir Noorullah Qureshi.

## Hyderabad Police Train for the Future with Workshop on AI-Driven Criminal Investigation

By Muqeem Keerio

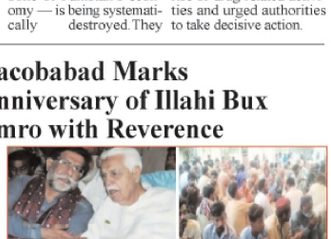


HYDERABAD: Under the directives of SSP Hyderabad Adeel Hussain Chandio, a training workshop titled "AI-Powered Policing: The Role of Modern Technology in the Investigation of Suspected and Murder Cases" was held at the Police Headquarters Hyderabad.

The chief guest, Mr. Ghulam Farooq, Additional Director of AI Research and PG Affairs at the Asian Institute of Medical Sciences, delivered a comprehensive presentation on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in modern policing — particularly its role in evidence analysis, case investigation, and rapid identification of criminals.A large number of SHOs and Investigating Officers from across Hyderabad attended the workshop, showing great interest in AI's practical applications and its potential to transform law enforcement practices.Inspector Ashfaq Bhatti, Reader to SSP Hyderabad, was also present during the session. The Hyderabad Police announced plans to conduct more such training programs to enhance investigative efficiency through modern research and technology.

## Sujawal Traders Decry Lawlessness, Demand Security and State Protection

By Samiullah Memon

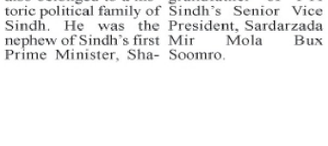


DARRO:Leaders of the Anjuman-e-Tajiran Sujawal District expressed deep concern over the deteriorating law and order situation, saying that traders who pay taxes to keep the country running are deprived of basic protection.

Speaking at the oath-taking ceremony of the traders' association, President Hafiz Riaz Memon, Patron-in-Chief Haji Muhammad Amin Memon, Haji Aslam Memon, Abdul Ghafoor Memon, Nizam Memon, Hafiz Muhammad Memon, Dr. Ghulam Rasool Zaiwar, Akhtar Kachhi, Muhammad Haroon Soomro, Hafiz Hidayatullah Soomro, and Iqbal Soomro said that agriculture — the backbone of Pakistan's economy — is being systematically destroyed.They added that insecurity has peaked across the Sujawal district, and traders no longer feel safe while traveling between towns for business. The speakers lamented the unchecked rise of drug-related activities and urged authorities to take decisive action.

## Jacobabad Marks Death Anniversary of Illahi Bux Soomro with Reverence

By Bilawal Baloch



JACOBABAD: The first death anniversary of renowned political figure and former Speaker of the National Assembly, Illahi Bux Soomro, was observed with great respect and reverence at his residence, Illahi Bux Soomro Bungalow, in Jacobabad.

The ceremony was led by his elder son Muhammad Zubair Soomro and Sardarzada Mir Mola Bux Soomro. On the occasion, Quran Khwani, special prayers, and charitable food distribution were organized for the late leader's soul.

Illahi Bux Soomro not only played a significant role in Pakistan's Parliament but also belonged to a historic political family of Sindh. He was the nephew of Sindh's first Prime Minister, Shaheed Illahi Bux Soomro, the uncle of former Prime Minister of Pakistan Sardar Muhammad Mian Soomro, and the grandfather of PTI Sindh's Senior Vice President, Sardarzada Mir Mola Bux Soomro.

REGIONAL TIMES

# NATIONAL

## Tehran–Istanbul Train Service to Resume on December 31, Announces Hanif Abbasi

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Railways Hanif Abbasi has announced that the Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul train service will be resumed on December 31, marking a major step toward reviving regional rail connectivity.

Speaking at a press conference at the Railway Headquarters in Lahore, Abbasi said the government is leaving no stone unturned to modernize Pakistan Railways and make travel easier and more comfortable for passengers. He added that railway stations are being upgraded with cafeterias and internet facilities, while cleanliness standards are being further improved.

The minister revealed that a 400-kilometer new track is being laid for the Reko Diq project, and talks with the Asian Development Bank are underway for a $2 billion agreement to upgrade the Rohri–Karachi track, expected to be completed by July 2026.

He also mentioned that 160 new locally manufactured wagons will be added to the system by March 23, 2026, and the cargo express service has already earned over Rs3.5 billion in revenue.

Abbasi announced that Shalimar Express will be inaugurated soon after Prime Minister's approval for November 7, while Rehman Baba Express is being upgraded. Additionally, 26 railway plots will be auctioned and 48 warehouses outsourced to increase revenue.—RT/Agency

## Pakistan Moving Toward Stability and Development, Says Ahsan Iqbal

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof Ahsan Iqbal has said that Pakistan has once again been put on the path of progress and stability, and called for collective efforts to make the country a model of development and prosperity.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony of a steel warehouse at Misri Shah, here on Saturday, the planning minister described Misri Shah as "the beating heart of Lahore," saying that the area's reconstruction and industrial activity are vital to the city's infrastructure and the national economy. He said that Allah Almighty has once again blessed Pakistan with resilience and an opportunity to rise stronger.

He said that Pakistan Muslim League–Nawaz (PML-N) has always led the country towards prosperity and progress . —RT/Agency

## Punjab Government Moves to Introduce New Legal Framework for Mining Sector

LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to introduce a new comprehensive legal system for mining and minerals.

The Punjab Mines and Minerals Bill 2025 will be presented in the Punjab Assembly for approval tomorrow. The bill provides for the establishment of a licensing authority, a mining and minerals force, specialised police stations, and dedicated courts.

Under the bill, the licensing authority will have the power to issue, suspend, or revoke licences. The mining and minerals force will be responsible for preventing illegal mining activities. Specialised police stations and courts will handle matters related to mining and minerals.

The senior officer of the mining and minerals force will be the Director General. —RT/Agency

## Faisalabad Woman Arrested for Allegedly Poisoning Husband Amid Domestic Dispute

FASILABAD: : In a shocking incident, a woman allegedly poisoned her husband over a domestic dispute, leading to his death. Police confirmed the arrest of the 25-year-old woman after the tragic event. The victim, Shahid, a 42-year-old man, died after consuming food laced with poison. His body was moved to the hospital for post-mortem. The couple had been married for two years. According to police, the suspect poisoned Shahid following an argument. Authorities have registered a case and are continuing their investigation, collecting further evidence. The case highlights the extreme consequences of domestic tensions escalating into violence.—RT/Agency

## Punjab Government Rejects Claims of Flour Supply Restrictions to KP as Baseless

LAHORE: Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari dismissed on Sunday allegations that the province is restricting flour supplies to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), calling the claims "contrary to facts."

She said flour is being supplied transparently under a regulated permit system.

Azma Bukhari clarified that Punjab has not imposed any restrictions on the inter-provincial transport of flour or wheat. She said that under Article 18 of the Constitution, the provincial government has made a permit and digital recording system mandatory to ensure transparency and accountability in supply chains.

She emphasised that the first responsibility of the Punjab government is towards its citizens, adding that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has taken effective measures to ensure the availability of flour at reasonable prices across the province.—RT/Agency

## Power Distribution Companies Seek Major Tariff Hike, Rs8.41 Billion Burden Likely on Consumers

ISLAMABAD: Power distribution companies have filed a petition with NEPRA seeking an increase in electricity rates for consumers nationwide. The request was submitted under the first quarter adjustment for the current fiscal year. According to sources, the companies have recommended transferring an additional burden of 8.41 billion rupees onto consumers. The petition outlines that 21.7 billion rupees are required for capacity charges, while reductions of 3.98 billion rupees in operations and maintenance costs, 6.43 billion rupees in system charges, and 2.88 billion rupees in transmission and distribution losses were reported. NEPRA has scheduled a hearing for the petition on November 6, and a final decision is expected shortly thereafter. This move could lead to a significant rise in electricity tariffs, raising concerns among consumers already struggling with rising costs.—RT/Agency

# METRO KARACHI

## Governor House Hosts Pinktober Women Festival Season Four

KARACH: The Pinktober Women Festival Season 4, organized by Shama Rashid's Karachi Women Entrepreneurs Group, was held at Sindh Governor House. The event featured sessions on breast cancer awareness, mental health, fitness, and women's rights. Chief guest Tariq Mustafa praised Shama Rashid's efforts. Dr. Samia Asif and other experts educated attendees on vital health topics. A cooking competition, Pinktober Awards, and a hi-tea session concluded the day. The festival emphasized the urgent need for breast cancer awareness, early detection, and timely treatment in Pakistan.—RT

## Karachi Rolls Out E-Challan System, Ushering in Automated Traffic Enforcement Era

KARACHI: Motorists in Karachi should prepare for a major shift in traffic enforcement as the e-challan system goes live tomorrow. The new automated system aims to enhance traffic monitoring and enforce road safety regulations more efficiently. It will issue fines electronically for traffic violations, eliminating manual processing. This move is expected to streamline traffic law enforcement, reduce corruption, and ensure that violators are promptly penalized. With the launch of e-challans, Karachi takes a significant step towards modernizing its traffic management and improving road safety for all.—RT/Agency

## Altaf Shakoor Blames Land Mafia for Karachi's Deepening Housing Crisis

KARACHI: Pasban Democratic Party Chairman Altaf Shakoor slammed the rampant violation of building control rules in Karachi, accusing the land mafia of occupying government and private lands. He highlighted the illegal conversion of amenity plots into commercial ventures, leaving citizens without parks, schools, and hospitals. Shakoor called for honest officials to curb corruption and urged action against the land mafia exploiting Karachi's housing shortage. He proposed satellite towns to address the crisis and reduce illegal land grabs.—RT/Agency

## Massive Blaze Erupts at Warehouse on Hub River Road

KARACHI: A massive fire erupted at a warehouse on Hub River Road in Karachi, causing significant damage to the property. The blaze, which started early this morning, spread quickly through the company's warehouse, sending thick plumes of smoke into the sky. Firefighters and rescue teams rushed to the scene, working tirelessly to control the flames. The fire has raised concerns about the safety measures in such industrial areas, as it took hours for authorities to bring the fire under control. While no casualties have been reported, the warehouse suffered extensive material losses. Investigations are underway to determine the cause of the fire, with initial reports suggesting it may have been sparked by an electrical fault. Local authorities are monitoring the situation closely.—RT/Agency

## SBCA Launches Major Crackdown on Illegal Structures Across the City

KARACHI: The Sindh Building Control Authority (SBCA) continues its operation against illegal constructions across Karachi. According to Director Demolition Muhammad Rehan, 50% of the Arha Arcade in Agra Taj Colony, Lyari has been demolished. The building was declared dangerous in July 2025 and was illegally built as a 7-story residential structure on a 40-yard plot. In another operation, 70% of the 5-story Abdul Samad Mansion in Lyari Naya Abad has been demolished. During the ongoing operation, unsafe buildings are being torn down to ensure public safety. Muhammad Rehan stated that currently, over 500 unsafe buildings exist across the city, with the highest number (406) located in District South. The demolition operation continues to intensify to rid the city of these hazardous structures.—RT/Agency

## Hazim Bangwar Honoured as Best Assistant Commissioner for Outstanding Public Service

KARACHI: Assistant Commissioner Hazim Bangwar has been honored with the Best Assistant Commissioner Award for his outstanding public service and dedication to Karachi's betterment. The award was presented by Karachi Commissioner Hasan Naqvi in a ceremony attended by senior officials, including the Additional Inspector General of Karachi. Naqvi praised Bangwar's tireless efforts, emphasizing his commitment to addressing citizens' concerns. He urged other assistant commissioners to emulate Bangwar's dedication and professionalism, calling him a role model for new Civil Service of Pakistan officers. Bangwar's exceptional service has set a new benchmark in public administration.—RT/Agency

## Father-Son Duo Arrested in Peshawar for Murder of UC Chairman Faiq Yousafzai

KARACHI: Karachi police have arrested a father-son duo from Peshawar involved in the murder of UC Chairman Faiq Yousafzai last month. The suspects, Saleem Dad and Saqib Dad, had fled the city after committing the crime. According to police officials, the murder took place in March this year when the two men killed Faiq Yousafzai. In a further shocking revelation, the suspects also murdered Ismail, a witness to the UC Chairman's killing, in September.

Initial police investigations reveal that the murders were driven by personal enmity, with the father-son duo also involved in the killing of Sajid in Gulshan-e-Iqbal. The suspects have now been transferred from Peshawar to Karachi for further investigation.—RT/Agency

# Central Punjab

## Lawyers Laud Mian Anwar-ul-Haq's Transparent Leadership at Toba Tek Singh Reception

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH The Islamic Lawyers Forum organized a grand reception in honor of Mian Anwar-ul-Haq Advocate, candidate for the Punjab Bar Council Faisalabad seat. A large number of lawyers from the District Bar Association Toba Tek Singh attended the event, expressing appreciation for his services to the legal community.

Addressing the gathering, Mian Anwar-ul-Haq Advocate highlighted his past initiatives as President of the Faisalabad Bar Association, stressing that transparency and merit were his guiding principles in all Bar projects, including parking contracts and financial matters. He said the Bar's funds are a trust of the lawyers, and every rupee was spent for their welfare and institutional development. He pledged to continue serving with honesty, dedication, and fairness if given another mandate.

Mian Muhammad Shoaib Advocate, former President of the District Bar, lauded him as a principled and visionary leader, while Mian Waheed Anwar Kokab Advocate, President of the Islamic Lawyers Forum, said transparency and justice remained hallmarks of his leadership.

## Deputy Commissioner Chairs Governing Body Meeting of Daanish School Pir Mahal

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: A meeting of the Governing Body of the Centre for Excellence (Daanish School), Pir mahal, was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Toba Tek Singh, Umar Abbas Mela.

Principal Mumtaz Hussain Shakir presented a detailed briefing on the school's academic performance, teaching standards, and available facilities. The Deputy Commissioner was apprised of ongoing educational projects and administrative matters aimed at improving the institution's overall quality.

Assistant Commissioner Pir mahal Waqas Zafar and other board members attended the meeting, sharing valuable suggestions to further enhance educational standards and infrastructure.

Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela emphasized the importance of maintaining high-quality education and directed officials to continue efforts to ensure academic excellence at the institution.

## Emotional Intelligence Workshop at RTO Gujranwala Boosts Officers' Professional Capacity

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: A training workshop on Emotional Intelligence (EQ) was held at the Regional Tax Office (RTO) Gujranwala under the directives of Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue, Dr. Yasmin Fatima. The session aimed to strengthen the emotional and psychological competencies of officers, promoting workplace harmony and improved professional performance.

The workshop was led by Mr. Yasir Arafat, a distinguished leadership trainer and psychotherapist with vast experience training professionals from the civil services, military, and corporate sectors. He engaged participants in interactive exercises, emphasizing the role of self-awareness, empathy, and emotional control in effective leadership and decision-making.

Participants appreciated the initiative, describing it as highly beneficial for enhancing team cohesion and fostering a positive work environment. The Chief Commissioner expressed her commitment to continuing such capacity-building programs to improve overall organizational efficiency.

## Punjab Police Sub-Inspector Bilal Shahid Clears CSS, Earns Recognition Across Force

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Another talented officer of the Punjab Police has brought pride to the department and the province. Sub-Inspector Bilal Shahid has achieved remarkable success by qualifying for the Central Superior Services (CSS) examination through his hard work, dedication, and perseverance.

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Punjab, Dr. Usman Anwar, met with Bilal Shahid to commend his outstanding achievement and extended congratulations to him and his family.

According to the Punjab Police spokesperson, Bilal Shahid has been selected in the Inland Revenue Service Group. He is currently serving in the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Punjab and had joined the Police Department as a Sub-Inspector in 2018.

The IGP lauded his success as a source of inspiration for other officers in the force.

## Crackdown Launched on Smoke-Emitting Vehicles to Combat Growing Smog Crisis

LAHORE: A large-scale crackdown has been launched in Lahore against vehicles emitting smoke to combat the worsening smog in the city.

The City Traffic Police have deployed special teams at all entry and exit points, as well as at various key locations across Lahore.

According to the Traffic Police, commercial vehicles without fitness certificates are not allowed to enter the city. During the current month, action has been taken against more than 13,000 smoke-emitting vehicles that contribute to smog. Special teams continue to operate at the city's entry and exit points to ensure compliance.

The Chief Traffic Officer Lahore said that no vehicle without a fitness certificate will be permitted to enter the city. —RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

# MONEY

## Government Slashes Industrial Power Tariff by Rs15 per Unit

ISLAMABAD: The government has reduced the electricity tariff for industries by Rs15 per unit, bringing the new rate down from Rs38 to Rs23 per unit.

According to Adviser to the finance minister, Khurram Schehzad, the decision will help lower business costs and pave the way for increased investment and employment opportunities. He said the government's clear objective is to promote growth, attract investment and create jobs.— Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

# EDITORIAL

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

Monday, October 27 , 2025

## Trump is the best hope for a sustainable peace between Pakistan and Afghanistan

Once more, the world sees Donald J. Trump stepping into the role that history, perhaps inevitably, has carved out for him: the dealmaker who solves problems others declare impossible. His assertion in Kuala Lumpur that he will resolve the Pakistan-Afghanistan conflict "very quickly" is not bluster. It is a statement grounded in a visible, undeniable record of ending conflicts that global institutions spent years merely managing.

This most recent flare-up between Islamabad and Kabul has been costly and deeply painful. Dozens of Pakistani soldiers were martyred, and hundreds of Taliban fighters and militants perished amid retaliatory strikes and border hostilities triggered by terrorism claims and mistrust. Though Doha talks have resulted in a ceasefire framework, a ceasefire without enforcement is merely a pause — not peace.

REGIONAL TIMES
Uniting People Every Day

This is where Trump's involvement becomes decisive. His personal rapport with Pakistan's leadership — naming Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Asim Munir as "great people" — reflects not just diplomatic courtesy, but a unique ability to create trust where suspicion thrives. And this is not theory. This year alone, Trump has helped broker ceasefires between Pakistan and India, Israel and Gaza's Hamas, and even between Thailand and Cambodia — achievements that stand in stark contrast to decades of frozen bureaucratic diplomacy.

Critics may dislike Trump's style, but they must concede the results: conflicts halted, lives saved, unnecessary wars prevented. His declaration, "I do it nicely… I can't think of anything better to do," speaks to a purpose larger than ego — a belief that real leadership means stepping forward when others hesitate.

Peace between Pakistan and Afghanistan is indispensable — not only for regional stability but for global security and economic resurgence. Pakistan should welcome Trump's renewed engagement. At this moment, his return to peacemaking may well be the region's greatest hope.

REGIONAL TIMES

# THE HEARTLAND

## Hyderabad Observes Late Rais Altaf Chandio's Chehlum

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: The Chehlum (40th-day memorial) of the late Rais Altaf Chandio, a distinguished political and social personality of Hyderabad, was solemnly held at Chandio House, Bakra Mandi, Kali Mori, Hyderabad.

The gathering began with the recitation of the Holy Quran for the Esaal-e-Sawab (blessing of the departed soul). A large number of political leaders, government officials, journalists, and social figures attended the ceremony to pay tribute to the late Rais Altaf Chandio.

Among the notable attendees were DSP Zafar Chandio, Advocate Imdad Chandio, Dr. Khadim Chandio, political leader Fahad Chandio, DIG Establishment Asif Abro, former DIG Atta Chandio, Ishrat Mughal (Member HMC Hyderabad), Rais Ali Hasan Chandio, Rais Ghulam Mustafa Chandio, Rais Ghulam Murtaza Chandio, former MPA and PPP Divisional President Muhammad Nawaz Chandio, HESCO's Ajiz Dhamrah, senior journalist Jehanzaib Ali Katyar, Advocate Nisar Chandio, Abid Chandio (Member Municipal Corporation Mirpurkhas), Syed Waseem Shah, and Irfan Arain.

## Nawab Jam Zaheer Ali Khan Condoles With Junejo Family

By Hakim Baloch

JAM NAWAZ ALI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Tehsil President and District Vice Chairman, Nawab Jam Zaheer Ali Khan, visited Goth Sanjar Junejo to offer condolences to PPP General Secretary Jahangir Junejo and Alamgir Junejo on the passing of their father, late Noural Khan Junejo.

He expressed deep sorrow over the demise and prayed for the departed soul's eternal peace and a place in Jannah. The bereaved family thanked the visiting dignitary for his support and sympathy during this difficult time.

## Sindhi Hari Tehreek Protests Corporate Farming and Low Rice Prices in TMK

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: The Sindhi Hari Tehreek and Awami Tehreek organized a protest rally in Moya town, district Tando Muhammad Khan, against the falling prices of rice and the increasing influence of corporate farming. The rally was led by central leaders of the Sindhi Hari Tehreek, including Dr. Dildar Laghari, Ismail Khaskheli, Bilawal Lashari, Anwar Rind, Jakhro Nohani, Hameero Mal, Harchand Lal, Dr. Mushtaq Shoro, Ponjo Mal, Hashim Laghari, Lakhmir Baghrani, Hafeez Baghrani, Shakeel Baghrani, Somar Mehreri, Kasro Mal, and Jesingh.

Addressing the gathering, the leaders strongly condemned what they termed as a "deliberate economic massacre" of farmers and growers through the manipulation of rice prices, allegedly carried out through collusion between industrialists and the ruling elite.

They said that both the federal and Sindh governments, including elected representatives and bureaucrats, have completely failed to protect the interests of small farmers. The leaders accused the authorities of planning to destroy agriculture — the backbone of the rural economy — and vowed to continue their struggle until farmers receive fair crop prices and corporate control over agriculture is ended.

## Arts Council Larkana Hosts Seminar on Sindhi Language and Cultural Responsibility

LARKANA:A seminar titled "Sindhi Language and Our Responsibilities" was organized by the Literature Department of Arts Council of Pakistan, Larkana, at Bhittai Literary Hall.

Distinguished speakers included Dr. Sikandar Mughal, Professor Ghulam Hussain Katpar, analyst and journalist Nisar Khokhar, Isa Memon, and educationist and poetess Yasmeen Brohi, while Professor Jahangir Abbasi, noted writer and novelist, served as moderator.

The event began with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Amjad Gul Soomro, followed by the presentation of floral bouquets to the guests as a token of respect.

Chairman of the Literature Department, Akhtar "Piya", welcomed the guests and expressed gratitude for their participation. Later, Ustad Ghulam Shabbir Samoon enthralled the audience by melodiously presenting a Bhittai kalam, receiving great applause from the participants.

The speakers highlighted the importance of preserving and promoting the Sindhi language, stressing that it is not only a medium of communication but also a key part of Sindhi culture, history, and identity. They urged intellectuals, teachers, and youth to play an active role in safeguarding and spreading the language through education, literature, and media.

## Kotri Streets Fill with Protesters Demanding Arrest of Laborer's Killers

By Sheikh Sindhi

KOTRI:The heirs of laborer Irfan Ali Ganchho, who was shot dead by armed assailants three months ago in the Brohi Chowk area of Kotri SITE, staged a protest outside the Kotri Press Club over the police's failure to arrest the culprits.

During the demonstration, relatives including Himat Ali Ganchho and Farhan lamented that Irfan, a young worker, was killed while returning home from a bakery. Although a case was registered soon after the incident, the main accused remain at large even after three months.

They further alleged that the perpetrators' supporters have been threatening the victim's family to withdraw the case, while police have failed to provide them protection. The protesters demanded the immediate arrest of the main culprits and the delivery of justice.

## Annual Urs of Pir Pithoro Opens with Spiritual Devotion and Cultural Fervor

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: The annual Urs of Sindh's revered Sufi saint, Pir Pithoro, has formally commenced at the Dargah Mari Pir Pithoro.

The Urs was inaugurated with the traditional chadar offering ceremony by MPA Rana Hamir Singh Sodho, the shrine's custodian Pir Kanji Singh, and other pirs.

On the opening night, musical and spiritual gatherings filled the atmosphere with devotion and joy. Renowned Sindhi artists, including Samina Gaddi, Nandi Abida, Rubina Urs Chandio, Akhri Jalal, along with Sufi performers and devotees like Bhagat Tota Ram, Bhagat Salo Ram, Ramzan Faqir, and Faqir Feroz, captivated the audience with their soulful performances.

As part of the Urs celebrations, horse racing competitions will also be organized, attracting prominent horse enthusiasts from across Sindh to showcase their prized horses.

## Hyderabad Holds Anti-Drug Awareness Rally to Protect Youth

By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD: The Nishat Welfare Organization, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department, organized an anti-drug awareness rally in Hyderabad to highlight the growing threat of drug addiction among youth.

The rally, led by Deen Muhammad Talpur, Qadir Bakhsh Bugti, Sadaf Keerio, and others, started from Old Campus and concluded at the Press Club Hyderabad. A large number of men, women, and NWO members participated in the event.

Speaking on the occasion, the organizers said that drug addiction is a poison destroying young lives, with alarming reports indicating that drugs have even reached educational institutions.

They emphasized that the purpose of the walk was to raise awareness among the youth so they stay away from narcotics and lead healthy, productive lives.

The leaders added that those involved in drug use cannot play an active role in society, and their addiction negatively impacts their families as well. They further expressed concern that drug use and trafficking are increasing daily, calling for strict action and community efforts to curb the menace.

## Badin Growers Block DC Chowk in Sit-In Against Exploitative Rice Prices

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: The ongoing exploitation of farmers and the sudden drop in paddy prices have sparked outrage in Badin, where the Hari Abadgar Tehreek has launched a large-scale sit-in at DC Chowk to protest against the injustice.

Following the movement's call, growers from across the district gathered in Badin to voice their anger over the unfair reduction in rice prices, unjust deductions, and alleged collusion between investors and traders. The protest has resulted in the closure of main roads, disrupting traffic in several parts of the city.

The demonstrators declared that their sit-in would continue until a fair price for paddy is fixed and arbitrary deductions are stopped. Despite the growing intensity of the protest, the district administration has yet to establish meaningful contact with the protest leaders.

## Reception at Bhatti House Sakrand Honors Community Service and Public Contributors

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: A luncheon and reception were organized at Bhatti House Sakrand in honor of government officers from various departments of Shaheed Benazirabad Division and socially active individuals. The event was hosted by Ustad Mir Muhammad Bhatti and presided over by District Education Officer Muhammad Saleem Bhatti.

Abdul Majeed Bhatti attended as the chief guest, while Professor Noorul Amin Rajput, Qazi Javed Sanai, and Zakir Hussain Shar participated as special guests.

During the event, host Mir Muhammad Bhatti warmly welcomed the guests and presented them with traditional gifts of Ajraks and Lungis. Earlier, Hafiz Qadir Bakhsh Bhatti invited the guests to share their views. Mian Bakhsh Bhatti, Karim Bakhsh Bhatti, and Shafqat Hussain Bhatti also expressed their gratitude, saying they were thankful to Mir Muhammad Bhatti for uniting esteemed members of the Bhatti community from various cities and providing a platform for mutual interaction and fellowship.

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS

## England sweep aside New Zealand to clinch second spot in Women's World Cup table

VISAKHAPATNAM: A collective bowling effort, followed by Amy Jones's unbeaten half-century, helped England crush New Zealand by eight wickets in the 27th match of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 here at the Dr. Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium.

The victory helped England finish second on the points table with 11 points in seven matches, only behind defending champions Australia, while New Zealand, who were already out of the semi-final contention, remained sixth with four points in as many games.

Opting to bat first, the White Ferns' batting unit could yield 168 runs before being bowled out in 38.2 overs.

Left-arm spinner Linsey Smith led England's bowling charge with economical figures of 3/30 in 9.2 overs, followed by Nat Sciver-Brunt and Alice Capsey with two wickets each, while Sophie Ecclestone and Charlie Dean chipped in with one apiece.

Right-handed opener Georgia Plimmer remained the top-scorer for New Zealand with an anchoring 43 off 57 deliveries, while her fellow top-order batter Amelia Kerr was the other notable run-getter with a 43-ball 35.

Chasing a modest 169-run target, the four-time champions comfortably knocked the winning runs for the loss of two wickets and 124 balls to spare, concluding their league-stage campaign with a comprehensive victory.—Agency

## Lando Norris reveals the qualifying mind trick fueling his surge

Lando Norris has revealed the trick he is using in qualifying, after clinching pole position at the Formula One Mexican Grand Prix.

Norris is 14 points behind his McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri, who is at the top of the F1 drivers' standings with 346 points, while Red Bull's Max Verstappen is third with 306 points.

The British driver revealed that he has removed the lap time data tracker from his steering wheel. He said that in this way, he focuses more on the lap instead of on how he is doing while executing it.

"I've not had it since Monaco, and I've never used the delta since in qualifying. Who knows if it would have helped me or made me worse. I think the thing when I don't have it is I push no matter what – no matter how the start of the lap was, no matter how any corner was," Norris said. "I guess it's because you have no reference of maybe the overall lap time, you just always try and maximise every corner to the maximum. Otherwise, sometimes I just stare at it too much, and that's never the best thing. —Agency

## Ciryl Gane breaks silence on controversial eye poke chaos vs Tom Aspinall

Ciryl Gane has reacted to the eye poke fiasco against Tom Aspinall at UFC 321, saying this is a sport, and it happens.

Aspinall was up against Ciryl Gane, hoping to get his highly anticipated title reign on a high note.

When 25 seconds were left in the opening round, the Englishman suffered a nasty eye poke, and the bout was ruled a no-contest.

Aspinall took time, but then decided not to continue, admitting that he could no longer see out of one eye, and the fight was stopped, leaving the crowd inside Etihad Arena unhappy.

"Guys, I just got poked knuckle deep in the eye ball, why are you booing?" a devastated Aspinall said. responding to the noise of the fans.

"This is bulls***, the fight was just getting going. I can hardly open my eye."

Meanwhile, the challenger Gane has also reacted to the first round no-contest, saying he was doing well in the Octagon and that is why he is disappointed with the result.—Agency

## Face of the Day

**Name: Moiz Malik**

**About me: I'm a young gamer from Karachi!**

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

## FIFA unveils ASEAN Cup to reshape Southeast Asian football rivalry

FIFA and ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) have announced the launch of a new FIFA ASEAN Cup, as part of the plans to boost the development of football across the region.

The tournament was announced during the 47th ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday, and a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by FIFA President Gianni Infantino and ASEAN Secretary-General Kao Kim Hourn.

National teams from all ASEAN member states will feature in the tournament in a format inspired by the Arab Cup, which took place in 2021 under the umbrella of FIFA.

The FIFA president said that the agreement between FIFA and ASEAN will help make a difference in the region through the sport of football.

"The new agreement between FIFA and ASEAN will ensure that both organisations can help make a difference by using football as a vehicle that brings hope and joy to millions of children and young people across Southeast Asia," said FIFA President Infantino.

"This partnership will help to drive positive football development, social progress and the promotion of healthy lifestyles all across the region."

FIFA president Infantino called the tournament a great addition to the regional football calendar.

He added that through the event, we will bring countries together and boost the national team football in the region.

"This will be a great addition to the regional football calendar," Infantino said.

"Through the FIFA ASEAN Cup, we are uniting countries together, and this competition will be a huge success as it will help boost national team football in the ASEAN region and support the development of our sport across all of Southeast Asia."

FIFA aims to involve all football stakeholders, including the ASEAN Football Federation, the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), and the FIFA Member Associations of the ASEAN member states, with the exact format of the tournament set to be confirmed in due course.—Agency

## PCB opts not to renew contract for women's team head coach as review looms

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) made a "principled decision" to not renew national women's team head coach Mohammad Wasim's contract, sources told.

Wasim, appointed in 2024, is expected to be replaced, with a new head coach likely to be named next week, the sources added.

Insiders say results continued to decline under Wasim despite full support from the board. Contrary to claims made within the setup, the team did not win a match at the Women's World Cup, the sources said.

They also said Wasim was involved in team selection and support-staff appointments were made according to his preference, yet results remained "zero".

Players complained that, despite his title of head coach, Wasim did not provide coaching, the sources said.

They added that batting, despite Wasim's own background as a batsman, became the side's weakest aspect, while bowling standards also trended down and fielding remained error-prone, with numerous dropped catches at the World Cup.Multiple members of the setup described his attitude as abrasive, saying he struggled to align with the bowling and batting coaches and to build rapport with players.—Agency

## PSL prepares to renew qualifying franchises as valuation drive wraps up

LAHORE: The preparations for the renewal of franchises' 10-year contracts entered the final stage after the valuation of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) was completed, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) shared on Sunday.

According to the cricket board, its chairman, Mohsin Naqvi, held a meeting with chartered firm EY Mena, which carried out the valuation process of the marquee league, with PSL CEO Salman Naseer and PCB COO Syed Sumair Ahmed in attendance.

During the meeting, Mohsin Iqbal and his team submitted the report of PSL valuation, while PCB Chairman Naqvi raised questions.

After carefully analysing the report, Naqvi directed the representatives of the chartered firm to meet with the six franchise owners to renew their contracts at the earliest.The cricket board further shared that the franchises' contracts, set to expire in December, will be renewed on the basis of the valuation report, with the firm set to assess their new market value.Notably, the PCB, in its statement, categorically mentioned that the contracts will only be renewed with "eligible" franchises.The reiteration came amid a standoff between the PSL management and franchise Multan Sultans, who were accused by the PCB of violating several clauses listed in its 10-year contract.According to the details, the franchise risks the revocation of its contract with the league, while its owner may get blacklist if it fails to respond satisfactorily.—Agency

## Mbappe and Bellingham Ignite Real Madrid's 2-1 El Clasico Triumph, Ending Barca Curse

Kylian Mbappe and Jude Bellingham fired Real Madrid to a dramatic 2-1 win over Barcelona in Sunday's intense El Clasico. Mbappe's opener and Bellingham's quick response after a Barca equalizer ended a four-match losing streak against their rivals.

Despite a brilliant penalty save from Barca's Szczesny, Real extended their La Liga lead, with Bellingham sealing victory after Vinicius Jr.'s dazzling assist. Real's fiery comeback leaves Barcelona stunned.—Agency

## MMA icon says Tom Aspinall should have kept fighting through one eye at UFC 321

UFC legend Chael Sonnen believes Tom Aspinall should have fought with one eye against Ciryl Gane, after the British fighter's first title defence ended in a first-round no-contest.

Aspinall was up against Ciryl Gane, hoping to get his highly anticipated title reign on a high note.

When 25 seconds were left in the opening round, the Englishman suffered a nasty eye poke, and the bout was ruled a no-contest.

Aspinall took time, but then decided not to continue, admitting that he could no longer see out of one eye, and the fight was stopped, leaving the crowd inside Etihad Arena unhappy.

"Guys, I just got poked knuckle deep in the eye ball, why are you booing?" a devastated Aspinall said. responding to the noise of the fans.

"This is bulls***, the fight was just getting going. I can hardly open my eye."

Meanwhile, Sonnen has offered his thoughts on Aspinall's eye injury.

During a post-match show, Sonnen said that being poked in the eye is illegal, but Aspinall should have fought, as fighting with one eye is common.

"Being poked in the eye is illegal Brendan, but to fight with one eye is very common," Sonnen said.

"The opponent is trying to hit your eye; he's trying to bust you up and make your nose bleed. So that part of it, it does have a question mark for guys like Anthony and I. We are trying to be polite. —Agency

## Mike Hesson confirms Babar Azam's new batting role for South Africa T20Is

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan men's cricket team's white-ball head coach Mike Hesson revealed the batting position of returning Babar Azam for the upcoming three-match home T20I series against South Africa, scheduled to commence on Tuesday.

Babar, who is second on the list of all-time leading run-scorers in T20Is, had gone out of favour in the shortest format after the three-match away series against South Africa in December last year.

He ultimately failed to make it to the Pakistan squad for the recently concluded ACC Men's T20 Asia Cup 2025 as the former champions shifted their focus to grooming youngsters ahead of next year's ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

However, following the heartbreak in the eight-team continental tournament, the right-handed batter was called up for the home assignment against South Africa, who finished runners-up at the T20 World Cup 2024.

Meanwhile, Hesson, during a media interaction at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, on the sidelines of the national team's training session, backed Babar's return to the fold, revealing that Fakhar Zaman being given a break from the shortest format to improve his technique by playing domestic cricket, paved the way for the former captain's selection.

The head coach further pinned high hopes on the star batter to make a grand comeback before hinting that he would bat at number three in the home series against the Proteas.—Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

ENTERTAINMENT

## Khloe Kardashian pushes back after viral lip-sync stumble with Kylie Jenner

Khloe Kardashian dropped a glamorous lip-sync video with her sister Kylie Jenner.

Taking to Instagram on Saturday, the Good American founder shared a video showcasing the duo lip-syncing to Nickie Minaj's hit track Beez In The Trap.

However, the audio of the video was slightly not syncing due to which just a few minutes later Khloe took it down and reposted an updated version.

In the caption, Khloe teased something coming up with Kylie Jenner, writing, "November 12th @kyliejenner."

But, she made sure to mention, "it really bothered me that the first one, the song didn't lineup with our lip syncing…"

Fans and followers flooded the comments section with their love and admiration for the duo.

One user wrote, "I love this duo!!!!!!" for Kylie Jenner and Khloe Kardashian.

"I know you saw my post and thought I wanna do that! Lmaooooo love it," another joked.

The third comment read, "Good fix! Hehe."

## Taylor Swift surprises top influencer with personal gift delivery

Livvy Dunne, an influencer, was in for a shocking surprise when megastar Taylor Swift sent her several gifts as well as a Life of a Showgirl album copy.

The 23-year-ld, on Instagram, shares the snap of the special package the pop icon sent to her for being a huge Swiftie.

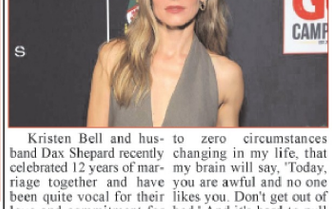
"If you're reading this, you're someone who has shown love, someone I admire, and ultimately someone I'd want to celebrate with as we welcome The Life of a Showgirl into the world," the note read, attached to the gift.

Taylor Swift sends gift to this mega influencer

Meanwhile, the album is receiving a strong response from the fans, but also from one of Taylor's exes, Joe Jonas, who has positive words for it.

"I've heard some of it. I think she's obviously the biggest artist out there, and I think it's good," he said in an earlier interview, adding, "Everybody's got an opinion about it, but from what I've heard, there are some catchy melodies."

## Kristen Bell opens up on how her husband helped her speak about depression



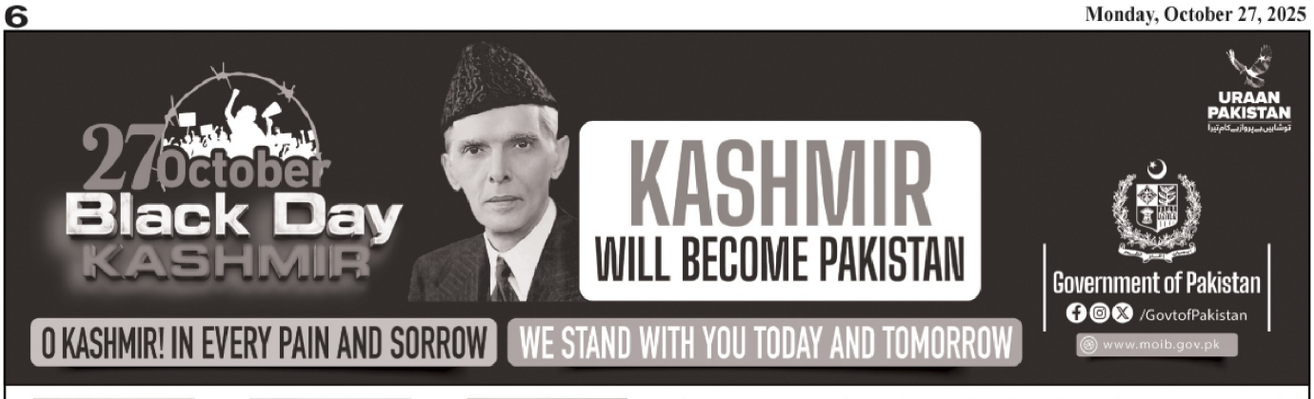
Kristen Bell and husband Dax Shepard recently celebrated 12 years of marriage together and have been quite vocal for their love and commitment for one another.

They've alsoencouraged each other to be honest about their darker moments like how Dax suggested Kristen to speak publicly about her depression in 2016.

"I realized I'd spent so many years presenting this optimistic, joyful person, when I know I have this heaviness that comes on," Kristen explained in an interview with Red magazine.

"Once I was honest about that, the feedback I received was astounding, so I kept talking about it. Because there are times, due to zero circumstances changing in my life, that my brain will say, 'Today, you are awful and no one likes you. Don't get out of bed.' And it's hard to pull myself out of that," she explained.

During more difficult times, Kristen revealed that she motivates herself with one of her lines from Frozen 2: 'Do the next right thing.' "And the next right thing, often, is pouring my coffee. The next right thing is brushing my teeth and then going downstairs to make breakfast," she explained. "It's taking it step by step." Kristin also said she turns to exercise to help her boost her mood. "While I hate that piece of advice because no one wants to hear it, it works," Kristen claimed.



## ASIF ALI ZARDARI

President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

On this day in 1947, Indian forces entered Srinagar in blatant violation of international law, moral principles, and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. Consequently, one of the darkest chapters in modern history began.

Since then, generations of innocent men, women, and children in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have endured unimaginable suffering under occupation, marked by violence, repression, and denial of their fundamental rights.

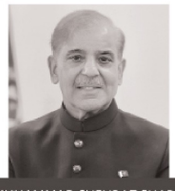
Every year, we observe this day as Kashmir Black Day to honour the valiant struggle and sacrifices of our Kashmiri brothers and sisters who continue to resist tyranny in their pursuit of the inalienable right to self-determination. Despite decades of Indian brutality, the spirit of resistance among the Kashmiri people remains unbroken.

After 5 August 2019, this brutal campaign has only intensified. India has unilaterally revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status, imposing a military siege, destructing properties of Kashmiris to inflict 'collective punishment' and enforcing draconian laws that strip the Kashmiri people of their fundamental freedoms. The occupied territory remains under severe restrictions on movement, communication, and assembly, while fake encounters, custodial torture, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, continue to terrorize civilians. Systematic attempts are being made by Indian authorities to turn the Kashmiris into a minority in their own homeland.

Given India's recent hostilities towards Pakistan, the occasion of Kashmir Black Day highlights that lasting peace and stability in South Asia is contingent upon a just and lasting resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions.

We take this opportunity today to call upon the international community, particularly the United Nations and global human rights organizations, to hold India accountable for its grave and systematic human rights violations in IIOJK, to bring an immediate end to the ongoing Indian atrocities in the occupied territory and to actively work towards the resolution of this long-festering dispute. The United Nations, in particular, owes it to the Kashmiri people.

On its part, Pakistan will continue its unwavering moral, diplomatic, and political support to the people of IIOJK who continue to endure oppression on daily basis. We stand united with our Kashmiri brethren in their struggle for justice, peace and self-determination.



## MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF

Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Every year the 27th of October marks the darkest day in the history of Kashmir. It was on this day, seventy-eight years ago, that the Indian Occupation Forces landed in Srinagar and annexed it - a tragic chapter in human history that continues to this day. Ever since that fateful day, India continues to deny the Kashmiri people their inalienable right to self-determination, as enshrined in numerous resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

For nearly eight decades, the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have endured enormous hardships and oppression. We salute their indomitable spirit, courage, and resilience, in the face of fear and persecution. Their unwavering resolve to attain the just and inalienable right to self-determination, remains undiminished. Since August 5, 2019, India has further intensified its illegal and unilateral actions, aimed at altering the demography and political status of IIOJK. In addition to human rights abuses, massive curbs have been imposed on freedom of movement and expression. By imposing such draconian laws, India has unleashed a systematic campaign of violence and brutality to silence the legitimate political voices and crush the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. The unlawful and unjustified incarceration of several prominent Kashmiri leaders and activists, as well as media personalities, is an ugly manifestation of this Indian extremist agenda. Their continued imprisonment, under fabricated charges, is in blatant violation of international human rights norms.

Pakistan has consistently condemned these unlawful measures, that defy international law and violate numerous relevant UN resolutions. We have steadfastly maintained our position on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, which remains clear, consistent, and principled. Lasting peace and stability in South Asia will remain elusive without the just and peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people.

As Prime Minister of Pakistan, I have always highlighted the plight of my Kashmiri brothers and sisters before the international community and echoed their calls for freedom from Indian occupation. I wish to assure the Kashmiri people, that they are not alone in their struggle, rather, the 240 million people of Pakistan stand resolutely beside them.

We reaffirm our unwavering solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and will never relent in our commitment to the Kashmir cause, until justice is done and the promise of self-determination, pledged by the international community, is finally fulfilled. Inshallah, that day is not far.

## MUHAMMAD ISHAQ DAR

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

On the solemn occasion of Kashmir Black Day, we recall the dark events of 27 October 1947, when Indian troops landed in Srinagar to enforce India's illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir. In the last seventyeight years, the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have suffered a systematic and relentless campaign of tyranny, oppression and subjugation at the hands of Indian occupation forces.

The UN Security Council, in a series of landmark resolutions, had unequivocally affirmed that the final disposition of Jammu and Kashmir would be determined through a free and impartial plebiscite conducted under the auspices of the United Nations. India has blatantly defied these binding resolutions, choosing instead to tighten its grip on the occupied territory through sheer force and repression. Pakistan, on its part, has always remained committed to the sanctity and centrality of UN Security Council resolutions on Jammu & Kashmir. We have consistently recognized as well as emphasized the critical role of the international community in securing a just and lasting solution to this long festering dispute in our region. The human tragedy in IIOJK has even worsened in the last six years following India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019. The revocation of the special status of IIOJK, followed by the imposition of draconian laws, demographic changes triggered by the issuance of a barrage of domiciles to non-residents, and the imprisonment of the legitimate Kashmiri leadership have become the defining features of the Indian occupation. These measures are yet again a manifestation of India's utter disregard of the UN Charter, the UN Security Council resolutions and the 4th Geneva Convention.

In the aftermath of the Pahalgam Attack, the Indian authorities launched another sweeping crackdown in IIOJK, subjecting thousands of Kashmiris to arbitrary detention and interrogation, while also carrying out demolition of homes of innocent residents in the occupied territory. These developments added to a long record of India's human rights violations and atrocities in IIOJK that have been well documented by the UN bodies and international human rights organizations. Yet, even in the face of such overwhelming adversity, the people of IIOJK have shown remarkable resilience, courage, dignity and perseverance. Their struggle remains unflinching, constantly reminding us of their unyielding quest to attain the right to self-determination.

The recent hostilities between Pakistan and India have once again demonstrated how the Indian intransigence on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and its defiance of international law pose a grave threat to peace and stability in South Asia. It is in the shared interest of all regional states and the international community that the dispute be peacefully and urgently resolved in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions.

On this Day, Pakistan calls upon the international community to play their due role in bringing an end to the suffering of the people in IIOJK. Their plight deserves not only attention but also meaningful action. Pakistan reaffirms its unwavering political, moral and diplomatic support to the just struggle of Kashmiri people. Pakistan will continue to raise its voice at every international forum until the realization of Kashmiris' legitimate right to self-determination.

## ATTAULLAH TARAR

Minister for Information and Broadcasting

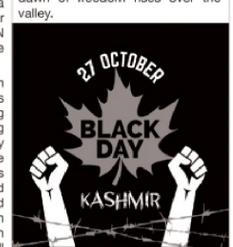
Every year, 27th October is observed as Kashmir Black Day to mark the illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir by India in 1947 — a day that stands as a dark chapter in history and a constant reminder of the unresolved plight of the Kashmiri people.

On this solemn day, we express our unwavering solidarity with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters who continue to face brutal repression and systematic human rights violations under the illegal Indian occupation. Despite decades of hardships, the Kashmiri people have remained steadfast in their just struggle for the right to self-determination, as enshrined in the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Pakistan will continue to extend its full political, diplomatic, and moral support to the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) until they achieve their legitimate aspirations for freedom and justice.

The Government of Pakistan, under the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, remains firmly committed to highlighting the Kashmir cause at every international forum, exposing the grave violations of human rights, and advocating for a peaceful resolution in accordance with the will of the Kashmiri people.

Let us renew our collective pledge on this day to stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Jammu and Kashmir and continue our efforts until justice prevails and the dawn of freedom rises over the valley.




### THE CONSEQUENCES OF INDIA'S AGGRESSION:

THE TOLL IS STAGGERING:

- MORE THAN 500,000 KASHMIRIS MARTYRED
- 3.5 MILLION KASHMIRIS FORCED TO MIGRATE
- NEARLY 8,000 MARTYRED IN CUSTODY
- 168,567 INNOCENT CIVILIANS ARRESTED
- 22,963 WOMEN WIDOWED
- 107,914 CHILDREN ORPHANED
- OVER 11,000 WOMEN SUBJECTED TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE
- 1,300 KASHMIRIS LOST THEIR EYESIGHT
- OVER 13,000 CHILDREN DETAINED

## ENGR. AMIR MUQAM

Minister of Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and States and Frontier Regions

Today, as we commemorate the 78th Kashmir Black Day, our prayers are with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters who have faced decades of injustice and oppression at the hands of Indian forces. On this day in 1947, the Indian forces entered Srinagar and illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Since then, the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have been denied their promised right to self determination.

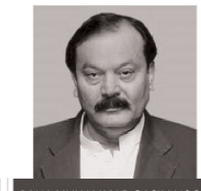
For seventy-eight long years, the people of IIOJK have endured immense hardships at the hands of the Indian authorities. However, they have never allowed their resolve to be broken, and they remain steadfast in their demand for their right to self determination. Their decades long resilience is a powerful reminder to the world that no force can erase the legitimate aspirations of people.

The United Nations Security Council resolutions on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute clearly recognize the right of the Kashmiri people to decide their own future through a free and impartial plebiscite under UN auspices. These resolutions remain binding and valid. It is the responsibility of the international community to ensure that these commitments are honoured and that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are allowed to exercise this right.

Since 5 August 2019, India has made new attempts to tighten its grasp over IIOJK. From attempting to alter the demographic composition to silencing the true Kashmiri leadership, Indian authorities have sought to undermine the very existence of Kashmiri identity. Moreover, the Indian authorities rely on draconian laws that give them unchecked powers to arrest, kill, and demolish property in IIOJK without accountability.

This repressive framework was brought to light once again after the Pahalgam Attack of 22 April 2025 when Indian forces launched a sweeping crackdown across IIOJK. Thousands of Kashmiris were arrested or interrogated, and entire homes were reduced to rubble. The crackdown was not limited to IIOJK as Kashmiri students studying in different parts of India became targets of intimidation and violence.

On this day, the Government of Pakistan and the people of Pakistan stand shoulder to shoulder with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters. Their pain is our pain, and their fight is our fight. We will continue to support them politically, morally, and diplomatically until their right to self-determination is fulfilled. Pakistan hopes that one day peace and justice will prevail for the people of Kashmir and that South Asia will move towards stability through a fair resolution of this long-standing dispute.



## RANA MUHAMMAD QASIM NOON

Chairman Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir

Every year, 27th October is observed as Kashmir Black Day to mark the beginning of India's illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir in 1947. On this dark day, Indian troops forcibly entered the territory of Jammu and Kashmir, betraying the will of the Kashmiri people.

This unlawful military intervention remains a crime against history, humanity, and the fundamental principles of justice and self-determination.

Over the decades, India has continued to tighten its occupation, strengthening its military grip on the valley through repression, coercion, and systemic state terrorism. The people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have faced extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, custodial torture, media censorship, rape as a weapon of war, and collective punishment under draconian laws. The voices of Kashmiri political leadership, activists, and journalists have been silenced, while millions remain trapped under one of the world's most militarized regimes.

Today, India is also attempting to alter the demographic composition of IIOJK through unilateral and illegal measures aimed at turning Kashmiris into a minority in their own homeland. These actions are a blatant violation of international law, the Fourth Geneva Convention, and numerous United Nations Security Council resolutions that recognize Jammu and Kashmir as a disputed territory and affirm the Kashmiri people's inalienable right to self-determination.

Pakistan rejects these illegal actions and stands shoulder to shoulder with the brave people of Kashmir. As Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir, I reaffirm that the Parliament, Government, and people of Pakistan will continue to extend full political, diplomatic, and moral support to their Kashmiri brothers and sisters until their rightful and peaceful struggle reaches its ultimate destination. The Kashmiri people are not alone, their sacrifices will not be forgotten, and their just cause will continue to echo across every international forum.

On this solemn day, we also pay homage to the martyrs of Kashmir and renew our pledge to support their heroic resistance until justice prevails, the occupation ends, and the Kashmiri people are granted the right to self-determination through a free and impartial plebiscite under UN supervision, as promised to them more than seven decades ago.

Kashmir will remain in our hearts, in our conscience, and in our collective resolve — until the dawn of freedom rises over the valley.

PID(I)3442-D/25

# METRO KARACHI

## Suspected Police Torture Sparks Outrage as Judicial Inquiry Opens in Karachi Custody Death

KARACHI: The Sindh government has ordered a judicial inquiry into the alleged torture and death of a young man, Irfan, while in police custody. Sindh's Home Minister, Ziaul Anwar, confirmed that instructions had been given to the Secretary of the Home Department to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident. Speaking to a private TV channel, Anwar assured that a comprehensive forensic investigation would be carried out, and anyone found responsible for the death would face legal action.

He emphasized that modern investigative techniques would be employed to ensure the case reaches a logical conclusion. Expressing regret over the tragic incident, the minister stated that it was deeply unfortunate that the young man lost his life while under police custody.—RT/Agency

## Veteran Journalist and Poet Shamsher-ul-Hyderi Remembered in Moving Malir Tribute

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI:A vibrant ceremony was organized at Sultan Shah Saqi Park, Razzaqabad—the headquarters of Malir—in honor of the renowned journalist, poet, and writer Shamsher-ul-Hyderi The event, titled "Mehran Art Production," was held with the support of the Department of Culture and featured heartfelt tributes to Haidari's remarkable contributions.

In the opening session, speakers including Rashid Lakhmir, Liaison Secretary of the Sindhi Literary Society Karachi; socio-political leader Syed Khuda Dino Shah; noted poet Asghar Baghi; and Irfan Abbasi highlighted Haidari's multifaceted legacy. They said that individuals like Shamsher-ul-Hyderi are born rarely, as he excelled in journalism, poetry, drama writing, and philosophy—leaving an enduring mark on Sindhi literature and media.

## Sachal Police Nab Robbery Trio Linked to a String of 50+ Street Crimes

By Dildar Sailro

KARACHI: Acting on the directives of SSP East, SHO Sachal Muhammad Ameen Khoso led a successful operation against street criminals, resulting in the arrest of a three-member robbery gang involved in more than 50 incidents across Karachi.

According to police, the arrested suspects had been active in Super Highway, Sachal, Sohrab Goth, Mubeena Town, and nearby areas, looting citizens at gunpoint. The suspects were identified as Abdul Samad son of Sadaruddin, Rizwan Ali son of Arbab Ali, and Aftab Ali son of Bagh Ali Shar.

Police said the gang had snatched gold earrings from Zainab, wife of artist Tanzeer Ali Chaudhry, at a private hospital in Sachal Goth on July 7, 2025, and injured a passerby, Nazeer Ahmed, during an exchange of fire near Randh Goth on July 30. One suspect, Tayyab, was arrested in an injured condition at that time.

## Star-Studded Karachi Reception as SBC Group Honors KPK Governor Faisal Karim Kundi

KARACHI: SBC Group of Companies hosted an exclusive dinner and Qawwali Mehfil in honor of Governor Faisal Karim Kundi. The event attracted high-profile guests, including Barrister Murtaza Wahab, Shabbar Zaidi, Senator Khushbakht Shujaat, and key figures from business, politics, and banking. Vice Chairman Ali Pesnani highlighted SBC's commitment to boosting seafood exports and supporting Pakistan's economy. The evening ended with a token of appreciation presented to Governor Kundi by the SBC leadership. The company remains a leader in seafood and microfinance sectors.—RT

## Seasonal Shift Fuels Spike in Cold, Cough, and Dengue Cases Across Karachi

KARACHI: The shift in weather and rising air pollution in Karachi have led to a sharp increase in cases of cold, cough, and flu. According to an ARY News report, over 100 cases of cold and cough were reported at Civil Hospital, along with 10 to 12 daily dengue cases. Jinnah Hospital's emergency and OPD reported around 150 cases, including 15 to 20 dengue patients daily. Private hospitals are seeing over 200 cold and cough cases. Health experts advise avoiding handshakes, wearing masks, and boosting immunity with a nutritious diet.—RT/Agency

## Search Underway After 5-Year-Old Boy Drowns in Lyari River

KARACHI: A 5-year-old boy, Mazmal, went missing after falling into the Lyari River near Sohrab Mosquito Colony yesterday. According to family members, Mazmal was playing near the river on Saturday evening when he accidentally slipped and drowned. Rescue divers conducted a search operation for several hours, but as of now, the child's whereabouts remain unknown. The family has urgently appealed to authorities to intensify efforts and locate their son as soon as possible. The incident has raised concerns over safety near the river, with locals urging for better precautionary measures to prevent such tragedies in the future.—RT/Agency

## Gas Explosion in Ranchore Line Leaves Children Among the Injured

KARACHI: A gas leak explosion in Karachi's Ranchore Line has left four people severely injured, including two young girls. The blast caused serious burns, and rescue teams, along with police, rushed to the scene.

According to rescue officials, the injured individuals are being transferred to the Civil Burns Ward for treatment.

In another incident, a fire broke out at a poultry farm near Razakabad, further adding to the emergencies. Authorities are investigating both incidents as rescue operations continue.—RT/Agency

## Karachi Heats Up: Temperature Climbs to 27°C With Dry Conditions Ahead

KARACHI: Karachi's minimum temperature today has been recorded at 23°C, while the current temperature stands at 27°C. The humidity level in the air is 38%, with winds blowing at a speed of 7 km/h from the northeast. According to the Meteorological Department, the city is likely to experience a maximum temperature of 36°C to 38°C throughout the day.—RT/Agency

## SIU Custody Death Sparks Protests as Two Policemen Arrested

By Dildar Sailro

KARACHI: Significant progress has been made in the case of a youth's death allegedly in the custody of the Special Investigation Unit (SIU). Police have arrested two officers, named in the FIR, while the victim's family staged a protest sit-in at Sohrab Goth, blocking the main highway.

According to details, 22-year-old Muhammad Irfan reportedly died on October 22 from torture during SIU custody. The police surgeon's preliminary report confirmed visible torture marks on his body.

DIG South Syed Asad Raza stated that ASI Abid Shah and Constable Asif Ali have been arrested, and more arrests will follow if further involvement is found. He added that the case may be converted to Section 302 (intentional murder) if necessary.

## Bin Qasim Police Break Theft Network Stealing Iron and Copper from Steel Mills

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: In a major operation, Bin Qasim Police have arrested four members of a gang involved in stealing valuable metals, including iron and copper, from the Pakistan Steel Mills area.

According to police sources, the arrested suspects have been identified as Jahangir, Akram, Sameer, and Sajjad. During the raid, police recovered over 100 kilograms of stolen copper and iron from their possession.

During the initial interrogation, the suspects confessed to selling the stolen materials at various warehouses across the city. Police officials added that the criminal records of the accused are being verified, and further legal proceedings are underway.

## Free Medical Camp by Al-Aminat Welfare Trust Brings Relief to Villagers

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: A one-day free medical camp was organized by the social organization Al-Aminat Welfare Trust in Safforan Gabol village, where Dr. Imtiaz provided free checkups and medicines to patients suffering from various ailments.

President of the Trust, Ramadan Gabol, said that Al-Aminat Welfare Trust is committed to serving humanity without any discrimination of race, religion, or caste. A large number of residents attended the camp and received medical assistance.

Dr. Imtiaz Ali shared that several patients were diagnosed with malaria, fever, and skin diseases such as scabies, and all were provided free medication.

Comrade Shabir Rajpur of Aashiq-e-Sindh also visited the camp and appreciated the welfare efforts of Al-Aminat Welfare Trust, emphasizing the importance of such initiatives for the health and well-being of underprivileged communities.

## Karachi's Escalating Fire Crisis Prompts Joint Action by KCCI and NFEH

KARACHI: Karachi's escalating fire incidents, with over 2,900 cases in 2024, have alarmed experts. In response, the Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) and the National Forum for Environment and Health (NFEH) have teamed up to tackle the crisis. KCCI President Rehan Hanif emphasized the need for stricter fire safety measures, calling for a coordinated approach among authorities and building owners. The 15th Fire Safety Conference on November 4 aims to spotlight top safety practices and urge greater compliance with fire protection laws.—RT

## Karachi Deputy Mayor Slams MQM, Blames Them for City's Decline

KARACHI: Deputy Mayor Salman Abdullah Murad has strongly responded to MQM's press conference, stating that MQM itself is responsible for the destruction of Karachi. He accused MQM of being behind the city's deterioration, highlighting that the PPP has always focused on public service, not looting. Murad urged MQM to apologize to the nation for its past involvement in corruption, extortion, and target killings.

He emphasized that no one would be allowed to push the city back into darkness. According to Murad, during MQM's rule, Karachi was plagued by ethnic division, thuggery, and a politics of fear. In contrast, under the PPP government, the city is experiencing a revival of peace, progress, and light.

Murad criticized those who were responsible for the city's past devastation but now try to present themselves as saviors. He stated that the people of Karachi are wise and will not be swayed by false claims and propaganda.—RT/Agency

## Sindh Government's Spokesperson Hits Back, Calls MQM Protests Self-Serving

KARACHI: Sindh government spokesperson, Saadia Javed, dismissed MQM leaders' press conference as a noise created for personal gain, stating that the time for "political orphans" has passed. She accused MQM of being increasingly unsettled by the PPP's vision and development projects for Karachi. According to Javed, MQM's protests are always aimed at safeguarding their own interests. She further criticized MQM for their past involvement in extortion, illegal hiring, and target killings, claiming that if anyone were to ask about such activities globally, even people in Israel would name MQM.

Javed also took aim at MQM's internal divisions, stating they have split into four factions, with more likely to form soon. She pointed out that MQM had been part of the PPP government from 2007 to 2013, yet never once mentioned the need for a master plan.—RT/Agency

## Street Crime Crackdown: Karachi Police Arrest Trio Behind Dozens of Robberies

KARACHI: Police have successfully apprehended a three-member robbery gang involved in over 50 street crimes in the Sachal Goth area. According to media reports, the arrested criminals were found in possession of firearms, mobile phones, cash, and a stolen wristwatch. The gang members have been identified as Abdul Samad, Rizwan, and Aftab Ali.

Police officials also revealed that the trio had previously snatched earrings from a woman at gunpoint. The authorities are continuing their investigation to determine if the suspects were involved in other criminal activities in the city. The arrests have been hailed as a significant success in the ongoing efforts to combat street crime in Karachi, where such robberies have been a major concern for residents.—RT/Agency

## Mother of Martyred Journalist Arshad Sharif Passes Away

KARACHI: Rifat Ara Alvi, the mother of martyred senior journalist Arshad Sharif, has passed away after a brief illness. The sad news was confirmed by Sharif's wife, Javeria. Family sources stated that the details regarding her funeral and burial will be announced later.

The passing of Rifat Ara Alvi comes as a deep sorrow to the family, following the tragic loss of her son, Arshad Sharif, who was killed earlier this year. The family is in mourning, and the community has expressed condolences for the loss of the respected matriarch.—RT/Agency

## Khawaja Izhar Accuses PPP of Stalling Karachi's Master Plan

KARACHI: Khawaja Izhar Ul-Hassan, a senior leader of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM), lashed out at the ruling party over the delay in implementing the Karachi Master Plan, despite its preparation at a cost of millions of rupees. Speaking at a press conference, he claimed that the Supreme Court's pressure led to the holding of local government elections, but the Karachi Master Plan Authority was unjustly taken away from the local government.

He criticized that Karachi is not under the control of any single institution, stressing the urgent need for the implementation of the master plan to unite all agencies and streamline city governance. According to Izhar, had the plan been enforced, it would have crippled the corrupt practices of PPP ministers, as it would have closed all avenues for corruption and irregularities in the city's management.—RT/Agency

## Dengue Wave Intensifies in Sindh as October Cases Cross 1,000 Mark

KARACHI: Sindh Health Department has reported 439 confirmed cases of dengue across the province this month, bringing the total for 2025 to 1083 cases. Dr. Azra Pechuho, the Health Minister of Sindh, revealed that the Karachi Division is the most affected area, with 188 cases reported, followed by Hyderabad Division with 154 cases, Mirpurkhas Division with 83 cases, and smaller numbers in other regions.

The Health Minister urged the public to disregard unverified information circulating on social media and reassured citizens that all hospital admissions and OPD cases are being meticulously tracked by the health department. She emphasized that the Sindh government is taking proactive measures to combat dengue, including spraying, fogging, and improving drainage systems across districts. Dedicated dengue centers have also been set up in hospitals to address the growing health concern.—RT/Agency

## Raging Fire Consumes Multiple Boats Near Fisheries Jetty

KARACHI: A sudden fire broke out in boats docked near Fisheries Gutter Jetty in Karachi, sending thick smoke billowing into the sky. Edhi Ambulance and volunteers swiftly arrived at the scene to assist in the ongoing relief efforts. According to rescue officials, efforts to control the fire are still underway, with nearby boats being relocated to safe areas. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined, but emergency teams are working tirelessly to prevent further damage.—RT/Agency

## Speeding Car Flips Near Baloch Bridge, Driver Injured

KARACHI: A high-speed car overturned after crashing into the footpath near Baloch Bridge on Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi. The driver, who sustained injuries in the accident, was rushed to the hospital for medical treatment. According to eyewitnesses, the vehicle lost control while speeding and veered off the road, causing it to flip over. The incident caused a traffic jam in the busy area as authorities arrived on the scene for rescue operations and to clear the wreckage. Investigations are underway to determine the cause of the accident. Local police have urged drivers to adhere to speed limits and drive responsibly to prevent such incidents on Karachi's busy roads.—RT/Agency

Believe you can and you're halfway there."

—Theodore Roosevelt

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# PM Shehbaz To Travel To Saudi Arabia Next Week For FII9 Summit

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will visit Saudi Arabia at the invitation of Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman from October 27 to 29, 2025, to participate in the ninth edition of the Future Investment Initiative (FII9), the Foreign Office said in a statement on Sunday.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar, as well as senior cabinet ministers and officials, will accompany the premier.

The high-profile delegation will represent Pakistan at the global forum, which gathers world leaders, investors, policymakers, and innovators under the theme: "The Key to Prosperity: Unlocking New Frontiers of Growth."

"The FII9 will convene global leaders, investors, policymakers, and innovators to explore the theme 'The Key to Prosperity: Unlocking New Frontiers of Growth,'" the foreign office press release stated.

It added that thematic discussions will address global challenges and opportunities, focusing on key topics such as innovation, sustainability, economic inclusion, and geopolitical shifts.

During his stay, the FO said that PM Shehbaz will engage with the Saudi leadership to explore avenues for enhanced cooperation in the trade, investment, energy, and human resource sectors.

The discussions will also cover regional and global issues of mutual interest and concern.

On the sidelines of FII9, the prime minister will also interact with leaders from other participating countries and heads of international organisations, it added.

"These exchanges will highlight Pakistan's investment potential and its readiness to pursue collaborations in sustainable development, in line with the "Think, Exchange, and Act" model."

"This visit underscores Pakistan's commitment to advancing economic diplomacy and fostering strategic partnerships in investment, technology, and sustainable development," the FO concluded.—RT/Agency

# Trump Oversees Ceasefire Agreement Between Thailand And Cambodia At ASEAN Summit

Kuala Lumpur: The leaders of Thailand and Cambodia signed an expanded ceasefire agreement on Sunday in the presence of U.S. President Donald Trump, marking a renewed effort to end months of deadly border clashes and restore stability in the region.

The signing ceremony took place shortly after Trump's arrival in Malaysia for the ASEAN Summit, where he was scheduled to attend key trade and diplomatic meetings. The agreement builds upon a truce reached three months earlier, which was also facilitated by Trump's direct intervention.

In his remarks, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet said the expanded declaration would "provide the building blocks for a lasting peace" and help mend ties between the two neighboring nations."Our border communities have been divided by conflict, and innocent civilians have suffered immense losses," Hun Manet said during the signing ceremony, held under the banner "Delivering Peace."Trump's role in mediating conflictU.S. President Donald Trump reportedly played a pivotal role in ending the five-day border conflict in July, when he called both nations' leaders to urge an immediate ceasefire.—RT/Agency

# Putin Reveals Russia Has Tested Nuclear-Powered Cruise Missile

MOSCOW: Russia has successfully tested its nuclear-powered Burevestnik cruise missile, a nuclear-capable weapon Moscow says can pierce any defence shield, and will move towards deploying the weapon, President Vladimir Putin said on Sunday.

The test, alongside a nuclear drill last week, sends a message that Russia, in Putin's words, will never bow to pressure from the West over the war in Ukraine, as US President Donald Trump takes a tougher stance against Russia to push for a ceasefire.

Russia's top general, Valery Gerasimov, chief of the general staff of Russia's armed forces, told Putin that the missile travelled 14,000 km (8,700 miles) and was in the air for about 15 hours when it was tested on October 21.

Russia says the 9M730 Burevestnik (Storm Petrel) — dubbed the SSC-X-9 Skyfall by Nato — is "invincible" to current and future missile defences, with an almost unlimited range and unpredictable flight path.

"It is a unique ware which nobody else in the world has," Putin, dressed in camouflage fatigues at a meeting with generals overseeing the war in Ukraine, said in remarks released by the Kremlin on Sunday.

Since first announcing the 9M730 Burevestnik in 2018, Putin has cast the weapon as a response to moves by the United States to build a missile defence shield after Washington in 2001 unilaterally withdrew from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, and to enlarge the Nato military alliance.

Putin said on Sunday that he had once been told by Russian specialists that the weapon was unlikely to ever be possible, but now, he said, its "crucial testing" had been concluded.

He told Gerasimov, a trusted wartime commander, that Russia needed to understand how to class the weapon and prepare infrastructure for deploying the Burevestnik.—RT/Agency

# PM Shehbaz Announces Nationwide Opening Of Gas Connections For Domestic Consumers

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif has announced that the government has decided to open gas connections for domestic consumers across the country, fulfilling a long-standing demand of the public. Addressing a ceremony in Islamabad for the launch of RLNG (Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas) gas connections, the Prime Minister highlighted that the provision of gas had been a major challenge during the PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) government in 2022. At that time, due to the challenging circumstances, the government had to apologize to consumers for the disruptions in service.Prime Minister Sharif recalled the severe energy crisis in 2013, where power outages in the country lasted more than 20 hours a day. —RT/Agency

# Pakistan Raises Alarm Over Afghan Border Violations, Accuses Kabul Of Facilitating Terrorism

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) has raised grave concerns over recent border intrusions from Afghanistan, stating that these incidents cast serious doubts on the interim Afghan government's intentions regarding terrorism. According to ISPR, these infiltrations by the Khawarij terrorist group are occurring at a time when Pakistani and Afghan delegations are engaged in talks in Turkey.

ISPR emphasized that Pakistan has repeatedly urged the Afghan interim government to enhance border security and fulfill its obligations under the Doha Agreement. The statement further highlighted that Afghanistan must take concrete steps to prevent its territory from being used by terrorist organizations to launch attacks on Pakistan.

These developments have raised alarm, as Pakistan continues to face cross-border terrorism. ISPR reassured the nation that Pakistan's security forces remain steadfast and determined to defend its borders against any form of aggression. The increasing border violations add another layer of complexity to already strained relations between the two countries.Pakistan's call for more effective border control is a critical demand, especially in light of ongoing peace negotiations. The international community continues to monitor the situation, as the stability of the region hinges on the effective cooperation between both nations in combating terrorism.—RT/Agency

# Interior Minister Naqvi Holds High-Level Meetings With US And UK Envoys On Bilateral Cooperation

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has held separate meetings with British High Commissioner Jane Marriott and US Chargé d'Affaires Natalie Baker, focusing on bilateral relations, regional developments, and areas of mutual interest, his office said on Sunday.

The meetings underlined Pakistan's efforts to strengthen ties with both the United Kingdom and the United States.

Relations with the UK have been revitalised through the resumption of flight operations after a five-year gap and initiatives like the newly inaugurated Centre of Excellence in Islamabad, a joint project enhancing Pakistan's capacity to tackle transnational crime and streamline mutual legal assistance and extradition processes. At the same time, engagement with the US reflects growing collaboration on security and counterterrorism.

According to a post on the Interior Ministry's X account, during the discussions, both sides emphasised enhancing cooperation in counter-narcotics, human trafficking, and security.

"Naqvi expressed gratitude to the British government and High Commissioner Marriott for resuming flight operations to the UK after a five-year hiatus," the post said.The Pakistan International Airlines operated its inaugural flight from Islamabad to Manchester on Saturday. The national flag carrier launched its flights to the United Kingdom after receiving the Third Country Operator (TCO) approval for flight operations. In the second phase, the flight operation will be extended to Birmingham and London.—RT/Agency

# Anonymous Philanthropist Donates $130 Million To Pentagon To Fund US Soldiers During Shutdown

An anonymous donor has contributed a substantial $130 million to the U.S. Department of Defense to ensure U.S. soldiers continue receiving their salaries during the ongoing government shutdown. This generous donation has been confirmed by authorities, with former President Donald Trump previously stating that the funds would help pay the salaries of approximately 1.32 million military personnel across the country.The U.S. government shutdown, now entering its 25th day, is on track to become the longest in American history. As the deadlock continues, this donation is seen as a critical lifeline for military personnel who would otherwise face delayed payments.Pentagon officials revealed that the donation is earmarked specifically for the payment of salaries and other benefits for U.S. troops.—RT/Agency

# Russian Drone Strikes On Kyiv Leave Three Dead And Dozens Injured

KYIV, Ukraine: Russia targeted Ukraine's capital with drones, killing three people in their homes, authorities said early Sunday.

At least 29 people were wounded, seven of them children, in the second consecutive nighttime attack on Kyiv to claim civilian lives. Ukraine's Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said a 19-year-old woman and her 46-year-old mother were among the killed.Russian drones caused fires in two residential buildings in the capital's Desnianskyi district. Emergency crews evacuated civilians from a nine-story and a 16-story building, put out flames and cleared the rubble.Olha Yevhenivha, 74, said there was so much smoke from the fire that she couldn't leave her apartment. "Even until now our windows are totally black from the smoke, and it was impossible to go down, so that's why we put wet blankets on our doors and balcony.—RT/Agency

# Punjab Government Produced Ample Grounds To Ban TLP, Says Minister

WAZIRABAD: Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said that cleaning up pictures and sitting on the streets outside the jail is not the job of the KP Chief Minister, adding the Chief Minister's job is to bring public welfare projects such as Suthra Punjab.

He said that the government is taking the best measures for the flood victims; the losses in the flood-affected areas are being estimated.—RT/Agency

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