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Changes on cards

Pakistan, who have already qualified for the final, are expected to make changes to their playing XI when they take on Sri Lanka in their last league game of the ODI tri-series at Gaddafi Stadium Lahore on Tuesday.

— Story on Page 7

The Province

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Wisdom Quote!



With faith, discipline and selfless devotion to duty, there is nothing worthwhile that you cannot achieve.

— Muhammad Ali Jinnah

News DIGEST

Govt increases petrol price by Rs1.54 per litre, diesel by Rs2.16

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has increased the price of petrol and high-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs1.54 and Rs2.16, respectively, while keeping petrol prices unchanged in the latest fuel price revision.

Following the adjustment, high-speed diesel will be available at Rs395.82 per litre, while petrol will be sold at Rs379.25 per litre.

According to a notification issued by the Petroleum Division, the revised prices will remain in effect for October 27.

Imran sisters' detention extended by another 30 days, LHC told

LAHORE: The Punjab government has extended the detention of jailed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan's sisters, Aleema Khan, Uzma Khan and Noreen Niazi, by another 30 days, the Lahore High Court (LHC) was told on Monday. A government lawyer submitted a report prepared by the Punjab home secretary to the court in connection with a petition seeking the release of the former premier's sisters.

Aleema was detained under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order, 1960 (MPO) on September 20 in Lahore and shifted to Kot Lakhpat jail. A day later, her sisters, Noreen and Uzma, were detained under 3-MPO, following a recommendation from the police. The detentions came ahead of PTI's nationwide protest, including a planned long march on Islamabad on September 27 to demand the release of Imran and supremacy of the Constitution.

Aleema's son, Shahrez Khan, filed a petition in the LHC on October 20, challenging the detention of the former premier's sisters. During the previous hearing on the petition, the LHC had summoned the Punjab home secretary and the superintendent of Kot Lakhpat jail in person on October 28. During the hearing, the petitioner's counsel had told the court that the detention orders for all three detained sisters had expired on October 19 and 20.

Meanwhile, the government lawyer told the LHC that the deputy commissioner had sent a proposal to the Punjab government recommending a further extension of their detention. — DNA



TEHRAN: Saudi Arabia's Defence Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman Al-Saud, Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, and Turkiye's intelligence chief Ibrahim Kalin during their meeting with Iran's president, foreign minister, and National Security Council head in Tehran on Monday.

Makkah Alliance, Iran agree to sustain regional peace talks

CDF Munir meets Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian alongside senior officials during his visit to Tehran

TEHRAN: Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir joined senior officials from Iran, Saudi Arabia and Turkiye in Tehran on Monday, where the four countries agreed to continue dialogue to strengthen regional cooperation.

The first four-way meeting, requested by Pakistan, focused on regional cooperation, the US-Israeli war against Iran and its consequences, Iranian state media reported.

The meeting was hosted by Major General Mohsen Rezaei, secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, and was also attended by Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, Press TV

reported.

The joint statement said Saudi Defence Minister Khalid bin Salman, Field Marshal Munir and Turkish intelligence chief Ibrahim Kalin participated in the meeting.

The participants agreed to continue dialogue to strengthen cooperation among the four countries, including on regional peace and security.

Earlier in the day, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) confirmed that Field Marshal Munir was visiting Tehran.

The delegations also met Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, who said Tehran supported any agreement that strengthened unity among Muslim countries and promoted constructive coopera-

tion in West Asia.

Pezeshkian urged regional countries to focus on shared interests and areas of cooperation, saying differences should not hinder common goals. He also called for greater economic cooperation to help regional countries meet one another's needs and withstand external pressure.

The talks come after nearly eight months of war following US-Israeli attacks on Iran in late February, prompting Tehran to blockade the Strait of Hormuz. The conflict has roiled global markets and energy trade.

An April ceasefire brought an end to the initial phase of intense bombardment, but the two sides have continued to vie

for control of the strait, through which around a fifth of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas used to travel.

The war has since spread across the region to include fighting between Saudi Arabia and the Houthis in Yemen, who have attacked airports and oil facilities in the kingdom.

Saudi Deputy Minister for Public Diplomacy Dr Rayed Krimly confirmed that the kingdom's defence minister was heading a delegation to Tehran on Monday. "The visit comes as part of the continued efforts by the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement countries for de-escalation between parties involved in the ongoing crisis," Krimly said in a post on X.

Samar Bilour urges UN to resolve Kashmir dispute

PROVINCE REPORT

PESHAWAR: Adviser to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister on Information and Public Relations Samar Haroon Bilour has described October 27, 1947, as a black day in the history of Kashmir, when Indian forces occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

In her message on Kashmir Black Day, she said the day reminded the world of the Kashmiri people's unwavering struggle for freedom, immense sacrifices and firm commitment to their right to self-determination.

Samar Haroon Bilour said the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa deeply shared the pain and struggle of their Kashmiri brothers and sisters. She added that the province had always stood for the rights of oppressed nations, justice, peace and human dignity.

She said solidarity with the Kashmiri people was not merely a formal expression but reflected shared human values and a firm belief in the right to freedom.

Expressing concern over reports of human rights violations, extrajudicial

killings, enforced disappearances and illegal arrests in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir, she urged the international community to take effective notice of these violations and ensure the protection of the Kashmiri people's fundamental rights.

She maintained that no nation's voice could be suppressed through force and oppression, adding that the Kashmiri struggle reflected the fundamental right of every nation to freedom, justice and determining its own future.

The adviser urged the United Nations and the international community to play their role in resolving the Kashmir dispute fairly in accordance with relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

She reaffirmed that the people of Pakistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa valued the sacrifices of the Kashmiri people and would continue supporting their legitimate right to self-determination.

She stressed that a peaceful and just resolution of the Kashmir dispute was essential for lasting regional peace and that the Kashmiri people must be allowed to decide their future in accordance with their aspirations.

Former army chief Abdul Waheed Kakar passes away in Rawalpindi

CDF Munir, all ranks of army pay tribute to late general's 'distinguished military career, leadership'

STAFF REPORTER

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) and Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) Field Marshal Asim Munir on Monday expressed deep sorrow over the passing of former COAS (Retd) General Abdul Waheed Kakar who passed away in Rawalpindi, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.

According to the military's media wing, CDF Munir, along with all ranks of the Pakistan Army, paid tribute "to the late general's distinguished military career, leadership and invaluable services to the Pakistan Army."

"The Pakistan Army shares the grief of the bereaved family and offers its heartfelt condolences," the ISPR said, adding, "May Allah Almighty grant the departed soul highest the place in Jannah and give the family strength and patience, Ameen."

General Kakar served as the fifth COAS, appointed by former prime minister



Nawaz Sharif on 12 January 1993. Upon the completion of his three-year tenure, he retired in 1996.

Political leaders condole death

President Asif Ali Zardari expressed grief over General Kakar's passing, conveying "heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the family."

Pakistan will defend Saudi Arabia with 'full force', says defence minister

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has said Pakistan will defend Saudi Arabia with "full force", stressing that the kingdom's defence is as important to Islamabad as protecting its own territory.

Asif made the remarks while discussing regional diplomatic efforts involving Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Turkiye amid tensions involving the Houthis.

"It is incumbent upon us that we defend Saudi Arabia," the defence minister said, after Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir joined senior officials from Iran, Saudi Arabia and Turkiye in Tehran, where the four countries agreed to continue dialogue to strengthen regional cooperation.

Referring to attacks targeting Saudi Arabia, he added: "We will defend Saudi Arabia with full force."

Asif said Pakistan's relationship with Saudi Arabia went beyond formal agreements and Islamabad would extend its full support to Riyadh.

"Just as the defence of Pakistan is paramount, the defence of Saudi Arabia is equally paramount for us," he said.

The minister also referred to an agreement under which, he said, three countries had made a written commitment to jointly respond whenever there was a threat covered by the pact.

"God willing, now that three countries are involved, by agreement also, we will defend each other's territory against any foreign aggression," he said.

Asif was responding to a question about a meeting in Tehran involving Pakistan's army chief, the Saudi defence minister and Turkiye's intelligence chief, and whether the discussions were linked to Houthi attacks or the possibility of a wider conflict involving the United States and Israel.

The defence minister said his assessment was that the initiative was more closely related to developments concerning Saudi Arabia, though the possibility of US action was also likely discussed.

Governor directs timely completion of Peshawar development projects

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Monday directed the authorities to ensure the timely completion of development projects under the Peshawar Master Development Plan, stressing improved traffic management, better civic facilities and the gradual shifting of electricity cables underground across the provincial capital.

Chairing a meeting at the Governor House, the governor reviewed progress on development schemes, traffic management, road rehabilitation, construction of underpasses, parking facilities, anti-encroachment measures and other

initiatives aimed at improving urban infrastructure and public amenities.

Adviser to Governor on Finance Tariq Mahmood Pasha, Adviser on Local Government Asif Rafiq, Chief Secretary Dr Muhammad Fakhare Alam Irfan and other senior officials attended the meeting.

The meeting was briefed on the 100-day and 180-day targets of the Peshawar Master Development Plan, ongoing development projects and the future roadmap.

Officials informed the meeting that completion of Phase-I and Phase-II of the Ring Road Missing Link, construction of underpasses, installation of electric poles, streetlights and cable infrastructure were among the key 100-day targets. Three underpasses have already been completed,



while the Pishtakhara and Jameel Chowk underpasses are nearing completion. Work is also underway on the installation of electric poles, lighting, rehabilitation and cabling along Ring Road and GT Road at a cost of Rs500 million.

The Governor was also briefed on projects for the rehabilitation, upgradation and construction of 35 major roads in Peshawar. Construction work on the second level of the Pir Zakori Flyover and expansion of Nasir Bagh Road is in progress,

while consultants have been hired for underpasses at University Road, Ram Das Chowk and Lahori Chowk under Phase-I.

The meeting was informed that the New Peshawar Bus Terminal, spread over 323 kanals, would soon be made operational under a public-private partnership model. It also reviewed proposals to clear debris within two days after anti-encroachment operations and convert reclaimed land into landscaped public spaces with green areas. The participants also discussed the possibility of developing shopping malls or residential flats at old bus terminal sites.

The Governor directed the authorities to initiate work on a citywide plan for shifting electricity cables underground,

saying the move would not only enhance the city's appearance but also help curb electricity theft.

He also ordered priority recarpeting of University Road and called for beautification of canal roads on the pattern of Lahore through modern lighting and landscaping.

The meeting also discussed traffic congestion, parking plazas, Regi Model Town and bottlenecks caused by central medians on Dalazak Road, Charsadda Road and Circular Road. Officials informed the meeting that no rickshaw or Qingqi had been registered since 2016 due to the absence of the required legislation, while the proposed e-challan system also came under discussion.

Mian Athar completed his PhD in Computer Science



BUREAU REPORT

PESHAWAR: Mian Athar Naqash has completed his PhD in Computer Science from Qurtuba University of Science and Information Technology, Peshawar Campus, by defending his research dissertation at a public defense here the other day.

His doctoral research focused on discovering biomedical information associations, which deals with analysing healthcare data and identifying relationships among different types of biomedical information.

22nd batch completes training at Bajaur Traffic Driving School

ANWAR ZADA GULYAR

BAJAUR : The 22nd batch of trainees at the Bajaur Traffic Driving School has successfully completed its training, and certificates were distributed among the participants at a ceremony held on the occasion. Addressing the ceremony, DSP Traffic Sohail Salar said that the primary objective of establishing the driving school is to educate citizens about modern traffic laws, safe driving practices, first aid, and responsible road behaviour. He emphasized that such training can help reduce road accidents and protect precious human lives. He further stated that trained drivers could play a vital role in protecting not only their own lives but also those of others by adopting responsible driving practices on the roads. He expressed hope that the newly trained drivers would apply the principles they had learned in their daily lives and contribute to establishing a safer traffic system.

VC Bacha Khan University Charsadda provides expert guidance on NRPU research proposals



MARDAN: Prof. Dr. Khan Alam, Vice Chancellor of Bacha Khan University Charsadda, visited Women University Mardan today to provide expert guidance to faculty members on strengthening

their National Research Program for Universities (NRPU) research proposals. The session was attended by Prof. Dr. Razia Sultana, Vice Chancellor of Women University Mardan, and Ms. Haleema Ikram, Director of the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC). During the session, Prof. Dr. Khan Alam reviewed research proposals submitted by faculty members and provided valuable feedback on research objectives, methodology, significance, originality, and overall proposal quality to enhance their prospects of securing research funding. The initiative reflects Women University Mardan's commitment to promoting research excellence, strengthening faculty research capacity, and enhancing opportunities for securing external research funding. OUR CORRESPONDENT

DC Kohat orders faster public services



OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOHAT: Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Nawaz Wazir has conducted surprise inspections of government offices at the KDA District Complex on Monday, reviewing staff attendance, cleanliness, office discipline and public service delivery.

Wazir visited the health, education, revenue, excise and taxation, routine immunisation and Regional Transport Authority offices, where he received briefings on departmental performance, official records and ongoing administrative matters.

He also interacted with the visitors to seek feedback on public services, diffi-

culties faced by citizens and the conduct of staff.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the officials to eliminate unnecessary delays and procedural hurdles, ensuring that public grievances were addressed on a priority basis and citizens had easier access to government services. Expressing satisfaction with staff attendance and cleanliness, he stressed the need for transparency, accountability and discipline in government offices.

DC urged the officials to discharge their duties with professional integrity and ensure the timely and effective delivery of public services. Officers from the relevant departments accompanied him during the inspections.

VC of University of Haripur visits Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan

OUR CORRESPONDENT

MARDAN: Vice Chancellor of the University of Haripur, Professor Dr. Sajid Rashid Ahmed, visited Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan, where he met with Chairman of the Department of Education, Professor Dr. Muhammad Idrees, and Additional Director of the Quality Enhancement Cell, Abrar Hussain Umarzai. Provost Pir Asfandyar was also present during the visit.

During the meeting, the participants discussed higher education, teaching standards, research activities, and ways to strengthen academic and research collaboration between universities. They also highlighted the importance of promoting quality education, creating new research opportunities, and improving academic and administrative practices at universities.

Professor Dr. Sajid Rashid Ahmed has



extensive experience in higher education, research, and university administration. He previously served as a Dean and Professor at the University of the Punjab, Lahore. He has also served as Vice Chancellor of the University of Okara

and the University of Kamalia.

The visit aimed to strengthen academic ties between universities, facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience, and explore opportunities for mutual cooperation in higher education and research.

Zamung Kor, Hospital sign child care MoU

PROVINCE REPORT

PESHAWAR: The Model Institute for Street Children (Zamung Kor), Peshawar, and Dr Khwaja Yunus Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in children's mental health, medical treatment, drug addiction rehabilitation and care.

The MoU was signed by Dr Sahar Fawad, Chief Executive Officer of Dr Khwaja Yunus Hospital, and Abdullah Khan, Director of Zamung Kor.

Under the agreement, both institutions will work together to provide counselling, treatment and support to children residing at Zamung Kor who require psychological care.

The hospital's services will also be utilised for the treatment, rehabilitation and psychological support of children affected by drug addiction who are placed under the protection of Zamung Kor through Child Protection Court orders.

The agreement aims to improve children's mental and psychological well-being, facilitate the effective rehabilitation of children affected by drug addiction, and



help them return to a healthy, safe and dignified life.

The MoU marks an important step towards strengthening institutional cooperation in child protection, treatment and rehabilitation. Both institutions have

reaffirmed their commitment to providing need-based medical care, psychological support and rehabilitation services to help children overcome challenges and become confident, independent and responsible members of society.

Karak police arrest three suspected drug dealers

RAUF KHATTAK

KARAK: Acting on the directives of District Police Officer (DPO) Karak Niaz Khan, City Police conducted an effective search and strike operation against drug dealers and criminal elements, arresting three suspects and recovering a total of 7 kilograms of hashish and a pistol.

According to police, the operation was carried out under the supervision of SHO Karak City Zafar Ali Khan as part of efforts to curb drug trafficking and maintain law and order in the district.

The arrested suspects were identified as Riaz Aslam, a resident of Kanda Karak; Shahzaib, a resident of Dubb Bego Khel; and Mehtab, a resident of Sart Khel. Police recovered 7 kilograms of hashish and a pistol from their possession.

Cases have been registered against the suspects under relevant legal provisions, and further legal proceedings are underway.

DPO Karak Niaz Khan stated that indiscriminate action against drug dealers and other criminal elements would continue across the district.

TUJ meets Information Adviser to discuss journalists' welfare

ANWAR ZADA GULYAR

BAJAUR : A delegation of the Tribal Union of Journalists (TUJ), led by its President Hasbanullah, met Adviser on Information Mahmood Jan Babar to discuss issues faced by press clubs, particularly in the tribal districts, including grants, available facilities, and the welfare of journalists.

The meeting was attended by TUJ General Secretary Muhammad Jamil, Finance Secretary Dildar Hussain, Press Secretary Anwarzada Gulyar, Executive Council members and senior journalists Qazi Fazlullah, Haji Pazeer Gul, Zahid Wazir, and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Adviser on Information Mahmood Jan Babar emphasized the need to set aside differences and make collective efforts to promote journalists' welfare, address their concerns, and resolve the issues faced by press clubs. He expressed his commitment to giving due attention to journalists' welfare initiatives and addressing matters related to press club grants and other facilities.

The delegation briefed the adviser on the challenges faced by journalists in the



tribal districts and the needs of press clubs. It stressed that providing adequate facilities and taking effective measures for journalists' welfare are essential to enable them to perform their professional responsibilities and promote independent journalism.

The TUJ delegation assured the adviser that the organization would continue to

Wafaqi Mohtasib's swift intervention ensures release of pending eobi arrears to resident of mardan

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Mr. Amresh Khan, a resident of Mardan, lodged a complaint with the Wafaqi Mohtasib against the Employees' Old-Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) regarding the non-payment of his arrears for September 2025. The complainant stated that he had completed all the requisite codal formalities for the release of the outstanding amount. However, despite the passage of more than one year, the concerned agency had failed to release his arrears. Taking prompt notice of the matter, the Wafaqi Mohtasib Regional Office, Peshawar, intervened to address the complainant's grievance. As a result of this swift and effective intervention, the concerned agency released the pending arrears, providing the complainant with long-awaited financial relief. The case was investigated by Ms. Anjum Bibi, Assistant Advisor; Wafaqi Mohtasib Regional Office, Peshawar, while implementation of the findings of the Honourable Wafaqi Mohtasib was ensured by Mr. Muhammad Alamzaib, Deputy Advisor. Expressing his gratitude, Mr. Amresh Khan thanked the Honourable Wafaqi Mohtasib of Pakistan, Mr. Naveed Kamran Baloch, and the Regional Head, Mr. Muhammad Qasim Jan, for their prompt intervention, speedy resolution of his complaint, and provision of free-of-cost justice.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Muhammad Qasim Jan, Regional Head, Wafaqi Mohtasib Regional Office, Peshawar, reiterated the institution's commitment to safeguarding the rights of citizens, particularly senior citizens and pensioners, in matters relating to Federal Government departments and agencies. He emphasized that the Wafaqi Mohtasib is dedicated to providing transparent, speedy, and free-of-cost administrative justice to the public at their doorstep. Members of the public facing maladministration or undue delays in Federal Government departments and agencies may lodge their complaints by visiting the Wafaqi Mohtasib Regional Office, Peshawar, through the online complaint registration system, or via the official WhatsApp number 0310-8147713.

VC University of Malakand assures faculty of meritocracy, justice, and support for research

OUR CORRESPONDENT

MALAKAND: Professor Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor of the University of Malakand, has assured faculty members that merit, transparency, and justice will remain the guiding principles of his administration. He also pledged full institutional support for faculty members and students, emphasizing that students are the university's primary stakeholders and that research excellence is essential for academic progress.

He expressed these views during his first formal interactive session with faculty members, organized by the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), University of Malakand. The session focused on guiding faculty members in preparing and submitting research proposals under the Higher Education Commission's (HEC) National Research Programme for Universities (NRPU), along with discussing strategies to improve the success of research funding applications.

Professor Dr. Muhammad Idrees brings



extensive academic, administrative, and research experience to the University of Malakand. Having served the University of the Punjab for the past 26 years, he has also held the position of Vice Chancellor at two prominent universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: the University of Hazara and the University of Peshawar. He assumed the vice chancellorship of the University of Malakand on October 5, 2026. He is also recognized for his contributions to microbiological research and his leadership of an international microbiology research centre at the University of the Punjab.

The ORIC organized the session to ben-

efit from the Vice Chancellor's extensive research experience and to share his insights with the university's academic community. During his address, Professor Dr. Muhammad Idrees reflected on his professional experiences, observations, and the historical development and future prospects of research culture in Pakistan. He encouraged both early-career and experienced researchers to actively explore research opportunities, develop innovative ideas, and prepare competitive abstracts and proposals for the HEC's NRPU and other research funding programmes. He further highlighted the importance of identifying relevant funding agencies

and research-supporting organizations, urging faculty members to develop productive research networks and pursue collaborative projects. He assured the faculty of his full support in strengthening research activities and creating an enabling academic environment at the University of Malakand.

The interactive session provided faculty members with an opportunity to engage directly with the Vice Chancellor, raise questions, and share their concerns in a friendly and inclusive atmosphere. Responding to their queries, Professor Dr. Muhammad Idrees categorically reaffirmed his commitment to merit-based decisions and equitable treatment, stating that no compromise on merit would be tolerated during his tenure.

Emphasizing the university's core mission, he observed that students are its foremost stakeholders. "We are here because of our students. Our respect, dignity, and positions are associated with them. Therefore, students must remain our first and foremost priority," he said.

Grand Aman Jirga held in Tank



TANK: A Grand Aman Jirga was held in Tank under the chairmanship of District Police Officer (DPO) Tank, Abdul Samad Khan.

The Jirga was attended by representatives of the district administration, security forces, District Development Council member Irfan Kundi, Ulema-e-Karam, elders, and citizens.

The participants emphasized joint efforts for establishing lasting peace in the area and further strengthening coordination between the police and the public.

During the Grand Aman Jirga, held for the establishment of peace in District Tank, the current law and order situation and public issues were discussed. People

from different schools of thought participated in the Jirga, chaired by DPO Tank Abdul Samad Khan, and presented their suggestions for the restoration of peace.

The participants said that for lasting peace in the area, the police, district administration, security institutions, and the public will have to play their role together. The Jirga also highlighted the importance of mutual consultation, public cooperation, and effective liaison between the police and citizens.

The citizens termed the holding of the Grand Aman Jirga a welcome step and expressed hope that this initiative would help improve the law and order situation in the area and remove public concerns.



ISLAMABAD: A view of massive traffic jam at I.J.P. Road due to a crane lifting out of order loading truck stand in the middle of road, in the Federal Capital. — PHOTO: ONLINE

DC Karak meets public under open door policy, directs early resolution of pending land acquisition cases

RAUF KHATTAK

KARAK: Deputy Commissioner Karak Hamid Iqbal met members of the public at his office under the Open Door Policy and listened to their complaints and concerns. He issued orders for the resolution of certain issues on the spot, while directing the relevant officials to take immediate and effective measures to address other complaints.

The Deputy Commissioner assured the public that all possible steps would be taken to resolve their legitimate issues and provide them with relief. He emphasized that the timely resolution of public grievances is among the key priorities of the district administration and that negligence in this regard would not be tolerated.

Meanwhile, a meeting regarding pending Land Acquisition cases was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Karak Hamid Iqbal. The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Karak and officials from the relevant departments.

During the meeting, the concerned officials briefed the Deputy Commissioner in detail on pending land acquisition cases, the progress made so far, and the challenges hindering their resolution.



Deputy Commissioner Hamid Iqbal directed the relevant officials to take effective measures to resolve all pending cases on a priority basis. He stressed that all legal and procedural requirements must be fulfilled and that the

cases should be completed within the stipulated timeframe.

He further instructed the concerned departments to strengthen coordination and adopt a coordinated strategy to eliminate unnecessary delays and ensure the early completion of pending land acquisition cases.

Deputy Commissioner Karak Hamid Iqbal reiterated that the district administration would continue its efforts to address public grievances, expedite official matters, and ensure the timely resolution of pending cases in accordance with the law.

Clean and Green KP campaign launched in Swat

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SWAT: On the directives of the Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a month-long special cleanliness campaign has been formally launched in Swat under the Clean and Green Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Campaign.

In this regard, a special awareness walk was held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Swat Adnan Abrar and Chief Executive Officer of Water and Sanitation Services Company (WSSSC) Swat, Babar Khan Tanoli. Relevant officers and sanitation staff of WSSSC Swat participated in the walk.

Speaking to the media on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Swat Adnan Abrar said that the special cleanliness campaign would continue for an entire month. During this period, special cleaning operations would be carried out in all Village and Neighbourhood Councils falling within the jurisdiction of WSSSC Swat. Special attention would be given to the cleanliness of streets, roads, drains and public places to ensure a clean and healthy environment for citizens.



Referring to the ongoing anti-encroachment operation, the Deputy Commissioner made it clear that the district administration was committed to the complete removal of permanent and temporary encroachments. He said that several individuals were voluntarily removing encroachments along various roads across the district, including the Fizatag Bypass, while the remaining encroachments would also be removed in accordance with the law during the ongoing operation.

He added that the common objective of the anti-encroachment operation and

the special cleanliness campaign was to widen public passageways, keep roads clean, improve drainage systems and facilitate the smooth movement of citizens.

The Deputy Commissioner appealed to citizens and business owners to cooperate with the administration in maintaining cleanliness, disposing of waste at designated places and voluntarily removing encroachments.

"A clean environment, open roads, smooth traffic and a beautiful Swat are not solely the responsibility of the administration; they are our shared commitment."

Spare parts dealers alleged police protecting suspects of robbery case

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Spare parts dealers Qasim Subhan and Fazal Subhan of Shoba Bazaar, Peshawar, have alleged that police are protecting the suspects instead of arresting them in a robbery case involving spare parts worth more than Rs100 million, Rs600,000 in cash and two mobile phones. The incident reportedly took place in broad daylight at Natak Market in Shoba Bazaar.

The traders accused DSP Shahenshah Khan of attempting to undermine the case and appealed to the Chief Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Peshawar to take immediate notice of the matter and ensure justice.

Addressing a press conference at the Peshawar Press Club here on Monday, the two spare parts dealers, who belong to Jhagra Khushal Town, said they import spare parts from Malaysia in shipping containers and conduct business in Peshawar.

According to Fazal Subhan, he was present at his shop in Natak Market, Shoba Bazaar, with his two sons at around 2:00 pm last Friday when 13 armed



men stormed the premises. The assailants allegedly held them hostage at gunpoint and began looting the shop.

Fazal Subhan alleged that Israr Ahmed, son of Sher Muhammad and a resident of Guldara Kakshal, and Bakht Muhammad, son of Abdul Hameed and a resident of Doranpur, Peshawar, were allegedly leading the armed men.

He claimed that the suspects removed spare parts worth more than Rs100 million from the shop and loaded them into a Ford van.

They also allegedly took Rs600,000 in cash and two mobile phones belonging to his son, Hamza.

He said they had records and other evidence relating to the incident.

The affected traders said that following the robbery, they contacted Police Emergency 15 and the relevant police station. However, they alleged that the police arrived approximately two hours later, while police personnel inspected

the scene at around 8:00 pm.

They said the delay in police response had caused them serious difficulties.

Fazal Subhan further alleged that they had provided the police with CCTV footage and the names of the suspected perpetrators, but the name of an alleged suspect, Habib, was not included in the FIR. He maintained that despite providing all available evidence, the suspects had yet to be arrested, raising serious concerns about the prospects of receiving justice.

He accused DSP Shahenshah Khan and certain police personnel of protecting the suspects and attempting to weaken the case. He called for an impartial investigation by the relevant authorities to establish the facts.

Speaking at the press conference, Qasim Subhan alleged that they were summoned to the police station and made to sit before individuals who had no apparent connection with the case. He further claimed that they were asked to provide thumb impressions to facilitate the release of certain individuals and that videos of these proceedings were also recorded.

HMC holds PMOS awareness seminar

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Hayatabad Medical Complex (MTI-HMC) hosted an awareness seminar on Polyendocrine Metabolic Ovarian Syndrome (PMOS) at the PGMI Hall in Hayatabad. The seminar, held under the theme "Beyond the Ovaries, Beyond the Myths", aimed to help women recognise the condition early and seek proper treatment.

The Female Physicians Society Pakistan organised the CME-accredited event with HMC and the Postgraduate Medical Institute (PGMI). Prof. Shamshad Begum was the chief guest. Prof. Shamshad Begum said PMOS is no longer understood as a problem of irregular periods or infertility alone. It is a complex hormonal and metabolic disorder that affects the whole body. She urged women not to ignore early warning signs and to consult a qualified doctor in time. She also called for an end to the myths and silence that keep many women from seeking care.



Prof. Dr. Bushra Rauf, In-charge Gynaecology Unit at HMC, spoke on the causes, symptoms and management of PMOS. She said it can appear as irregular periods, acne and skin changes, weight gain, insulin resistance and increased cardiovascular risk. With timely diagnosis, lifestyle changes and proper medical care, she said, most of these complications can be prevented or controlled.

Hundreds of teachers protest dismissals in Mardan, seek reinstatement or dues

AKHUNZADA FAZLE HAQ

MARDAN : Hundreds of male and female teachers dismissed by Khwendo Kor Organization, which operates with the support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), staged a protest outside the organization's regional office in Sheikh Maltoon Town, Mardan, on Monday.

The protesting teachers urged senior UNHCR officials to take immediate notice of their dismissals and ensure their reinstatement or facilitate the payment of pension funds and other outstanding dues.

Addressing the protest, teachers Tufail Ahmad, Sajjad, Ms. Rubina, Ms. Safia and others said they had served in schools established in Afghan refugee camps



under the management of UNHCR and Khwendo Kor Organization for periods ranging from 20 to 35 years.

They said that despite decades of dedicated service, they were suddenly informed of their dismissal through a phone call, without prior notice or adequate arrangements for their future.

The decision, they added, had pushed hundreds of teachers and their families into severe financial difficulties.

The protesters termed the dismissals unjust, arguing that teachers who had devoted a significant part of their

lives to educating children deserved fair treatment and proper financial arrangements before being removed from service.

They warned that if their demands were not addressed seriously, they would launch a protest movement to secure their rights and continue their struggle until their demands were met.

News BRIEFS

Osman Saifullah Khan says KP has potential to be Pakistan's energy superpower

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan, Member Governor Advisory Council / Advisor P&D, has said that energy and development are intimately linked, with a direct correlation between per capita income and energy consumption. As countries become wealthier, they consume more energy per person.

He said Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has the potential to be Pakistan's energy superpower, with vast hydro and hydrocarbon potential. It produces around 45% of Pakistan's crude oil and contributes significantly to the country's natural gas supply.

He regretted that over the last more than a decade, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has failed to translate its gas resources into sustained growth in local gas use and industrial activity. The province has regressed in this respect, with consumption in the province down by almost 37% since 2014.

Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan noted that supply has also dropped slightly in this time, but there have been several promising new finds. The southern districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provide more than 150 MMCFD of vital natural gas that cooks meals, heats homes and powers industry in other parts of Pakistan.

China stood by Pakistan in every difficult time: Asma



STAFF REPORTER

RAWALPINDI: Asma Butt, Chief Executive of Dolphin Communication, said that China is a great example of friendship, sincerity, and mutual cooperation for Pakistan. The entire Pakistani nation is grateful to Chinese President Xi Jinping and the people of China for standing by Pakistan in every difficult time and upholding their longstanding friendship. She said that the Pakistani nation never forgets the support of its sincere friends and always holds their contributions in high regard.

Asma Butt expressed these views in connection with the 2nd International Silk Route Festival 2026, which was attended by prominent personalities from various walks of life. She said that the Silk Route would play a significant role in strengthening Pakistan's economy, promoting trade activities, and expanding cultural ties between Pakistan and China. Such international festivals provide people from both countries with opportunities to understand each other's cultures, traditions, and civilizational heritage, while also opening new avenues for trade and mutual cooperation.

Asma Butt further stated that the friendship between Pakistan and China is a shining example of trust, mutual respect, and standing by each other in times of adversity. She expressed hope that the Silk Route would further strengthen relations between the two friendly countries and create new opportunities for economic development, cultural harmony, and prosperity across the region.

How a house in Islamabad became an illegal hospital: the story of FIR No. 60/2026

AYESHA NOOR

On the night of October 14 and 15, 2026, the FIA and HOTA raided a private house in PWD Society, Islamabad. They found that a kidney transplant had just been done there. The donor and the patient were still inside the house. Both were taken to PIMS Hospital. The police registered a case as FIR No. 60/2026 on October 15 under the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act 2010 and Pakistan Penal Code.

According to the FIA press release, the patient Mohammad Qasim paid 3 million rupees for the kidney. The donor Ramzan Arshad, a brick kiln worker, was promised 400,000 rupees. Out of this, 340,000 was for him and 60,000 was commission for three agents.

The police recovered 1 million rupees cash from one accused named Zafarullah Khan. He told the investigators that he had already given 2 million to Dr. Manzoor Hussain, who is named in the FIR as head of the team and is currently absconding. The FIA has frozen two houses worth 87.5 million rupees, one in Media Town worth 62.5 million and one in Jinnah Garden Phase I worth 25 million. Three vehicles were also seized, including one Changan Oshan X7 and two Honda Civics. The FIA has written to banks to get the bank account details of the accused and is considering money laundering proceedings.

According to the investigation, the method used was that tissue typing, cross-match, PRA and HLA tests, which are normally done only for HOTA-approved close relatives, were done through a hospital by submitting donor samples under the names of the recipient's relatives with fake referral letters. Dialysis of recipients was arranged through a technician of a hospital in Islamabad, and if the patient's condition became unstable after transplant, the patient was shifted to another hospital.

The FIA has said that the network included agents, a doctor, a nurse, an anaesthesia provider, medicine suppliers and lab facilitators, and it operated from private premises in PWD Society, Bahria Phase IV and Peshawar. Three accused, Zafarullah Khan, Shakeel Jamil and Najid were arrested from the spot, Usama Riaz was arrested the next day, and nurse Qurratulain Mahfooz Sadoozai is in jail. On October 20, the court declined FIA's request for her physical remand and sent her to judicial lockup to be produced on November 3. Other nominated accused including Qasim, Shahid, Liaqat, Saleem Khan and Babar are still to be arrested and raids are continuing.

Teams from HOTA, the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority and the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan inspected the facility and will submit separate reports. The case is being heard before Judicial Magistrate Shaista Khan Kundi, who granted four days physical remand of the four accused and fixed the next hearing on October 27.

Under the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act 2010, removal of human organ without authority can be punished with imprisonment up to ten years and fine up to one million rupees. If a registered medical practitioner is convicted, his name is reported to the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council for action including removal of his name from the register for three years for first offence and permanently for subsequent offence.

This case is similar to another case at Quaid-e-Azam International Hospital where the Supreme Court granted bail to two doctors accused in an illegal kidney transplant case. According to that case record, the raid was conducted on May 19, 2026, and Rs 1.294 million cash was recovered. Most donors in that case were also reported to be kiln workers.

May Allah grant hidayat to these people who earn haram money from bad work.

The government should give strict punishment to such people so that this illegal work does not happen again. Because of such cases, children also get kidnapped and their kidneys and other organs are removed and sold illegally for money. The purpose of discussing this story is that many such stories are happening around us, so we should be aware of this kind of fraud to keep ourselves and our children safe.

President's Germany Visit

President Zardari reaffirmed this position during his discussions in Berlin

JUNAID QAISER



Pakistan and Germany established diplomatic relations in October 1951. Since then, their partnership has developed across several fields, including trade, education, industrial cooperation and development assistance

President Asif Ali Zardari's recent visit to Germany marks an important moment in Pakistan's diplomatic engagement with Europe. Coming after a gap of 23 years and coinciding with the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the visit reflects a renewed determination to strengthen a longstanding relationship and explore opportunities in trade, investment, technology, healthcare and regional cooperation. At a time when Pakistan is working to strengthen its economy and expand its international partnerships, such diplomatic engagement carries considerable significance. The three-day visit, undertaken from October 22 to 24 at the invitation of German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, provided an opportunity for both countries to reassess their relationship in light of changing economic and geopolitical realities. The warm reception accorded to President Zardari, including a formal guard of honour, reflected the importance Germany attaches to its relations with Pakistan. More importantly, the substantive discussions between the two presidents demonstrated a shared interest in translating diplomatic goodwill into practical cooperation.

Pakistan and Germany established diplomatic relations in October 1951. Since then, their partnership has developed across several fields, including trade, education, industrial cooperation and development assistance. Germany has remained an important European partner for Pakistan, particularly in technological advancement, vocational training and human development. However, there is considerable untapped potential in this relationship. President Zardari's visit offered an opportunity to explore how the two countries can build upon their existing cooperation and respond to emerging economic challenges.

During his meeting with President Steinmeier, President Zardari called for a comprehensive expansion of bilateral relations, with particular emphasis on economic cooperation, emerging technologies, climate resilience, education and investment. His approach reflected an understanding that modern diplomacy must deliver tangible benefits. Pakistan needs partnerships that can strengthen its productive capacity, create employment opportunities and support sustainable economic growth. Germany, with its advanced industrial base and technological expertise, is well positioned to contribute to these objectives.

One of the most promising developments during the visit was President Zardari's meeting with senior executives of Siemens' healthcare business, including Executive Vice President Daniel Frisch. The discussions focused on expanding technological cooperation to improve Pakistan's healthcare infrastructure. According to the Presidency, Siemens expressed its willingness to enhance its existing engagement in Pakistan through innovative medical technologies, professional training and capacity-building initiatives. The company's representatives also indicated that they would visit Pakistan to pursue memoranda of understanding with local partners. The proposed cooperation includes technological solutions for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, stroke and other serious medical conditions. Such initiatives could make a meaningful contribution to a healthcare system that continues to face serious challenges, particularly in rural and economically disadvantaged areas. President Zardari's emphasis on affordable and accessible healthcare was therefore particularly relevant. His observation that quality medical services should be available to every citizen, especially those living in poverty and remote areas, reflected an important development priority. The presence of Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah during the Siemens meeting also highlighted the importance of provincial participation in such initiatives. Since healthcare delivery largely falls within provincial responsibilities, successful international partnerships require close coordination between federal and provincial institutions. The objective should be to ensure that modern medical technologies reach hospitals and communities where they are most urgently needed.

President Zardari's assurance of institutional cooperation through the Special Investment Facilitation Council was another encouraging aspect of the discussions. Pakistan has made considerable efforts to attract foreign investment, in this regard SIFC can play an important facilitating role, provided investment proposals are pursued with transparency and translated into workable pro-

jects. Beyond healthcare, the visit highlighted opportunities for deeper economic engagement. Germany's expertise in engineering, renewable energy, advanced manufacturing and vocational education offers valuable possibilities for Pakistan. The country's young population represents a considerable economic resource, but its potential cannot be fully realised without investment in education, technical skills and modern industrial capabilities.

German experience in vocational training could be particularly useful in this regard. Pakistan needs stronger connections between educational institutions and industry so that young people acquire skills relevant to contemporary labour markets. Cooperation between German technical institutions and Pakistani universities, training centres and businesses could help develop a more competitive workforce while opening opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship.

Trade must also receive greater attention. Germany is an important destination for Pakistani exports, but the relationship has room for expansion. Pakistan must improve industrial productivity, product quality and compliance with international standards if it wants to increase its presence in European markets. Diplomatic engagement can create opportunities, but lasting economic gains will depend on the competitiveness of Pakistani businesses and the consistency of domestic economic policies.

Another important dimension of President Zardari's visit was Germany's acknowledgement of Pakistan's growing diplomatic role in regional and international affairs. President Steinmeier appreciated Pakistan's efforts to facilitate dialogue and contribute to the peaceful resolution of disputes, including its mediation efforts in the US-Iran conflict. President Zardari reaffirmed this position during his discussions in Berlin, emphasising that sustainable peace requires constructive negotiations and respect for national sovereignty. The discussions also touched upon the Makkah defence pact involving Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye. President Steinmeier's interest in the agreement reflected the international attention surrounding emerging regional security arrangements. President Zardari explained that the pact was intended to strengthen collective deterrence and regional security rather than target any particular country.

Afghanistan was another important subject during the bilateral discussions. President Zardari reiterated that Pakistan has no dispute with the Afghan people but cannot permit terrorist groups operating from Afghan territory to threaten its citizens or violate its sovereignty. Germany's appreciation of Pakistan's humanitarian assistance to millions of Afghan refugees over more than four decades was a welcome acknowledgement of the country's longstanding contribution. The exchange also demonstrated that Pakistan and Germany have common interests in addressing regional security challenges through cooperation and dialogue. Continued engagement on Afghanistan, migration and humanitarian issues can strengthen mutual understanding and contribute to broader regional stability. Equally significant was the emphasis placed on education, women's empowerment, social protection and cultural exchanges. Germany has supported development initiatives in Pakistan for many years, and these areas offer considerable scope for further cooperation. Strong international relationships are not sustained by governments alone. They also depend on connections between universities, businesses, researchers, professionals and ordinary citizens.

President Zardari's invitation to President Steinmeier to visit Pakistan was a constructive gesture that could help maintain the momentum generated by the Berlin meetings. The timing of this visit is particularly important for Pakistan. Economic pressures, technological transformation and shifting international alliances have made diversified foreign partnerships increasingly necessary. Pakistan cannot afford to view diplomacy merely through the traditional lens of political relations. It must use its international engagements to attract investment, expand exports, acquire technology and improve the quality of life of its citizens.

As Pakistan and Germany commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations, they have an opportunity to give their partnership a more ambitious direction. The foundations of goodwill and mutual respect already exist. What is needed now is the political commitment and institutional capacity to transform that goodwill into lasting cooperation.

CPEC 2.0: From Infrastructure to Industrialisation

SYEDA ZAINAB GILANI



For more than a decade, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has been a defining feature of Pakistan's economic relationship with China. Its first phase prioritised energy generation, transport infrastructure, connectivity, and the development of Gwadar, helping address constraints that had long limited economic activity. As the partnership enters its next phase, however, a more consequential question emerges: how can these investments translate into a stronger and more competitive Pakistani economy?

The answer lies in industrialisation. Pakistan now needs to move beyond building the foundations of economic activity and focus on expanding the productive capacity those foundations were intended to support.

CPEC 2.0 offers an opportunity to connect infrastructure with industrial development, agricultural modernisation, technological cooperation, and export growth. The key challenge is to ensure that these priorities produce tangible economic outcomes rather than remain a list of ambitions.

CPEC's first phase helped address important infrastructure and energy constraints. Reliable electricity and improved transport links are essential

for manufacturing, investment, and trade. Without them, businesses face higher costs and struggle to compete. These achievements form an important part of the corridor's legacy. Yet infrastructure, however necessary, is not sufficient to transform an economy.

A highway can improve the movement of goods without increasing Pakistan's production. A port can facilitate maritime trade without creating a competitive export industry. An industrial zone can provide land and facilities without ensuring that businesses establish sustainable operations.

This distinction should shape the next phase of the partnership. Pakistan has invested in important economic assets; the priority now is to make those assets more productive. The World Bank's research on Pakistan's regional connectivity highlights the importance of complementary reforms, including more efficient customs procedures, lower trade costs, and stronger regional links, if infrastructure investment is to translate into wider economic gains.

The next stage should therefore be judged by what Pakistan can produce and sell, how efficiently its businesses operate, and whether domestic firms become more competitive.

The Pakistan-China Action Plan for 2025-2029, CPEC 2.0, prioritises industrial cooperation, special economic zones, agriculture, IT, and innovation. To turn these ambitions into results, Pakistan must attract competitive businesses that boost productivity, adopt modern technologies, and produce higher-value goods.

Pakistan's approval of Karachi Industrial Park as a special economic zone on October 23, 2026, highlights renewed industrial ambitions. Its success will depend on attracting businesses, creating jobs, and boosting exports, particularly in textiles,



CPEC 2.0 offers an opportunity to connect infrastructure with industrial development, agricultural modernisation, technological cooperation, and export growth

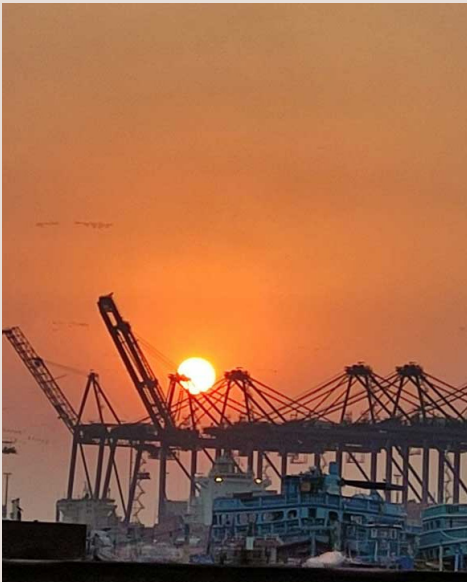
agricultural processing, engineering, electronics, and IT services.

The aim should not be to pursue every sector at once. Pakistan should prioritise commercially viable industries and develop the skills, infrastructure, and supplier networks needed to support them. Special economic zones should be judged not by their size or number, but by the businesses they attract, jobs they create, exports they generate, and opportunities they provide for local suppliers.

Pakistan's export challenge makes this shift particularly important. As the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics notes, CPEC investment must be supported by reforms to achieve sustained growth. Cooperation with Chinese enterprises can strengthen Pakistan's technological capabilities, but foreign investment alone does not guarantee technology transfer or build the skills of local workers and suppliers. CPEC 2.0 should promote knowledge transfer alongside production. Joint ventures can support technical training, supplier development, and university-industry partnerships, while technical institutes and researchers can help businesses address practical manufacturing and agricultural challenges.

For Pakistan's young workforce, this could create opportunities to acquire skills relevant to a modernising economy. For domestic businesses, it could provide pathways to better production methods, stronger supply chains, and more sophisticated products. The objective is not immediate technological independence, but a gradual and measurable improvement in the country's ability to absorb, apply, and eventually develop technology.

The real value of an industrial partnership lies not only in what it produces today, but also in what the country becomes capable of producing



tomorrow.

Pakistan and China should transparently assess industrial cooperation through operational projects, jobs, exports, local supplier participation, and workforce training. Governments, businesses, universities, and research institutions must work together, supported by predictable regulations, reliable utilities, efficient customs, and access to finance.

CPEC's first phase laid important foundations. The next must deliver stronger Pakistani businesses, more competitive exports, skilled workers, and lasting industrial capacity. Ultimately, CPEC 2.0 should be judged by how effectively it turns investment into sustained economic growth.



آئیے مل کر تھیلیسیا اور ہیپوفیلیا کے خلاف جنگ لڑیں

حمزہ فاؤنڈیشن ویلفیئر ہسپتال اینڈ بلڈ ٹرانسفیوژن سروسز

(رجسٹرڈ قلمی ادارہ)

آپ کا مالی تعاون ان غریب اور نادار مریضوں کی زندگیوں کے چراغ روشن رکھنے میں مددگار ثابت ہوگا۔

2006ء سے اب تک، تھیلیسیا اور ہیپوفیلیا کے مرض میں مبتلا ہزاروں مستحق بچوں کو خالصتاً انسانی ہمدردی کی بنیاد پر صحت مند، اسکرین شدہ خون اور خون کے اجزاء ملے طور پر مفت فراہم کیے جا رہے ہیں



امراض خون میں مبتلا مصعوم بچوں کی زندگی بچانے کیلئے اپنا رکوۃ حمزہ فاؤنڈیشن کو دیتے۔

بینک اکاؤنٹ کی تفصیلات: مسلم کرشل بینک (MCB) برانچ: یونیورسٹی ٹاؤن رانچ، پشاور خیریت بنوخوا

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پشاور 13-36-2023

National Savings mobilises Rs600 billion at end of first quarter, targets Rs1.53trn for FY27

ISLAMABAD: The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) has mobilised Rs600 billion between July 1 and October 15, meeting its target for the period and setting the stage for an ambitious Rs1.53 trillion resource mobilisation goal for the current fiscal year. The strong start to fiscal year 2026-27 reflects sustained demand for government-backed savings instruments, as the institution seeks to expand its investor base and strengthen domestic savings, according to official sources. The annual target is part of the government's broader efforts to channel household savings into formal investment avenues while providing citizens with accessible options for financial planning. CDNS is also pursuing measures to improve operational efficiency and broaden the reach of its savings products.

Expanding Shariah-compliant investment opportunities remains another key priority. The institution has been increasing its focus on Islamic financial products to attract investors seeking savings instruments that conform to Islamic principles.

For fiscal year 2025-26, CDNS had set a target of Rs60 billion for Islamic savings instruments, reflecting its efforts to strengthen its presence in the growing Islamic finance segment.

SIMAP chairman visits MIDC-IST Centre

OUR CORRESPONDENT



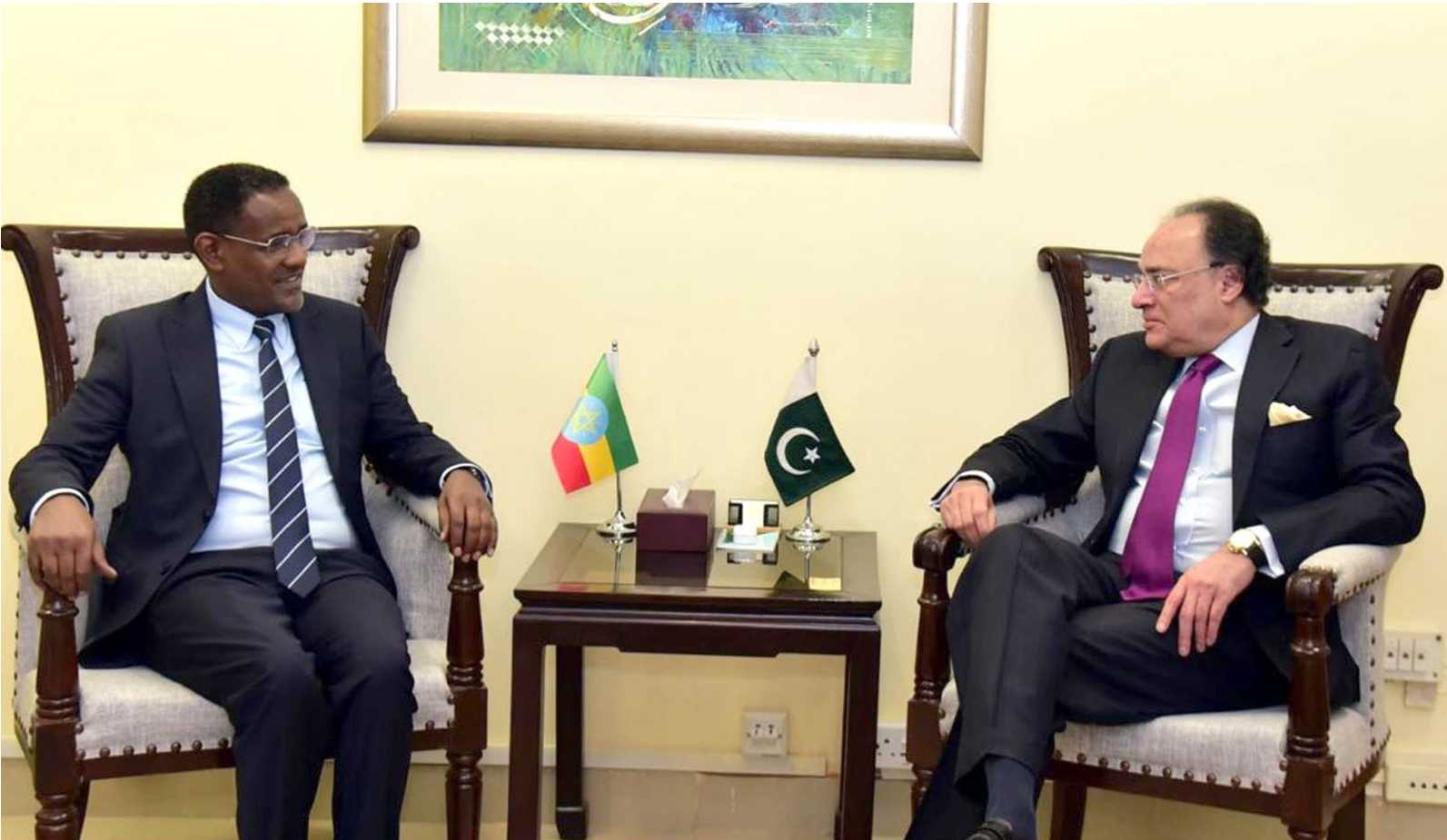
SIALKOT: Surgical Instruments Manufacturers Association of Pakistan (SIMAP) Chairman Murad Arshad with his executive team

visited Metal Industries Development Centre (MIDC) and Institute of Surgical Technology (IST), Centre of Excellence, Sialkot.

The delegation visited MIDC's all workshops, observed live machining operations, interacted with machine operators, and appreciated their technical expertise and the centre's machinery and facilities.

The deligation also visited IST workshops and daycare centre, expressing appreciation for the training environment and available facilities. They interacted with students enrolled in CBTA courses, including CAD, Surgical Instruments Manufacturing Technician, Machinist (Levels II-IV), and Welding (Levels II-III), discussing curricula, practical training, and industry-relevant skills.

The visit highlighted the shared commitment of MIDC, IST (COE), and SIMAP to strengthening industry-institute linkages, promoting technical excellence, and preparing a skilled workforce to meet the evolving needs of the surgical instruments industry.



H.E. Dr. Oumer Hussein Oba, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Pakistan, called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb.

Banking links sought with Ethiopia

FinMin, Ethiopian envoy also discuss energy, fertiliser risks and air connectivity

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb and Ethiopia's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Pakistan Dr Oumer Hussein Oba discussed improving financial and banking connectivity between the two countries to support greater trade and investment flows, at a meeting that also covered energy and fertiliser supply risks and air

links.

The ambassador highlighted the importance of closer cooperation between the banking sectors, according to a statement issued on Monday. He was accompanied by Minister Counsellor Melaw Getachew and Political Diplomacy In-charge Kalkidan Tadesse.

The minister briefed him on reforms under way in Pakistan aimed at lasting economic stability and investment-led growth, and both sides discussed sharing

development experience given similarities in their economic structures.

Discussions covered bilateral trade and investment, regional and global economic developments, and the implications of ongoing conflicts for energy supplies, fertiliser availability and food security, including risks to agricultural production and economic activity. The two sides also discussed air connectivity between Pakistan and Ethiopia and its role in strengthening commercial and

people-to-people links.

The minister reaffirmed Pakistan's interest in strengthening economic relations with Ethiopia, and both sides expressed commitment to continued engagement on trade, investment, financial cooperation and connectivity. They underscored the potential for sharing experiences and strengthening cooperation to support economic growth. Matters of mutual interest, including connectivity and trade, were also discussed.

Saleem chairs meeting of Sweets and Bakers Association

MUHAMMAD REHAN

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: A meeting of Sweets and Bakers Association was held under the presidency of President Haji Muhammad Saleem, in which General Secretary Rehan Azam, Senior Vice President Sohail Imran, Vice President Muhammad Ali, Press Secretary Ansar Abbas, Chairman Sufi Muhammad Jalil, Finance Secretary Muhammad Hanif, Sahil Rizwan, Muhammad Saad, Ghulam Rasool and other office bearers participated. In the meeting, office bearers said that with increase in prices of petrol and gas, raw material has also become expensive. Price of flour has increased from four thousand to seven thousand rupees, while price of ghee tin has increased from seven thousand to nine thousand rupees.

Prices of milk, butter and other items have also increased. They said when prices of flour, sugar and ghee are not fixed, how can rates of items made from them be fixed? In current situation, it is difficult to supply items at official rates, therefore immediate meeting of District Price Review Committee should be called



and rates should be fixed according to ground realities. Office bearers said that in Dera Ismail Khan, electricity remains off for 18 to 20 hours daily, while additional taxes are also being collected in bills.

Business is being affected due to law and order situation and road closures. Demanding early completion of flyover work, they said increase in gas, electricity prices and heavy taxes have increased difficulties of traders. In meeting, adminis-

tration was also demanded to investigate unverified and allegedly blackmailing-based propaganda on social media. On this occasion, Association announced aid of 50 thousand rupees for loss of shop of trader leader Haji Ashraf affected by fire, while it was also decided to provide financial assistance individually. In meeting, proposal was presented that joint relief fund should be established to provide help to traders in case of any accidental loss.

PSX recovers from policy rate-driven sell-off

Late buying lifts index up by 664 points despite 50bps rate hike

KARACHI: Bulls returned to the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) on Monday as buying re-emerged in index-heavy sectors in the latter half of trading, reversing the early fall amid anxiety ahead of the State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) policy rate decision. In the morning, trading started on a weak note as the KSE-100 index fell to 162,347.31, down 27.56 points. Sentiment remained subdued over the lack of positive triggers while the Monetary Policy Committee's (MPC) decision later in the day also weighed on market mood. The benchmark index posted a gain of 663.59 points, or 0.41%, to close at 163,038.47.

The market remained under pressure earlier in the session, with the index touching the intra-day low of 161,250.07. However, upward momentum in the latter half took it to the high of 163,477.09. In the afternoon, the SBP raised its policy rate by 50 basis points to 12%, a move that would increase borrowing costs for businesses.

Meanwhile, international oil prices fell after surging last week but remained near six-month highs amid expectations of easing hostilities between the US and Iran. Persistent attacks on key oil producer Saudi Arabia, however, kept investors wary and continued to cloud the outlook for global energy supplies.

According to KASB KTrade equity trader Ahmed Sheraz, the KSE-100 index closed up 664 points (+0.41%), recovering from the intra-day low of 161,250 to the high of 163,477. Trading remained volatile amid earlier concerns over a potential 100-basis-point rate hike, while buying interest emerged later, particularly in cement, which helped the index recover to close in positive territory. Sector-wise, performance was mixed, where cement firms, investment banks and oil & gas companies contributed positively. UBL, Engro Holdings and Lucky Cement supported the upside, while Meezan Bank closed in the red.

Meanwhile, Brent crude hovering near \$115 per barrel continued to fuel inflationary concerns. Pakistan, alongside Saudi Arabia and Turkey, was pursuing mediation efforts with Iran as a delegation visited Tehran on Monday. Despite the positive close, investor sentiment may remain cautious amid elevated oil prices, regional mediation efforts, Israeli elections and the upcoming US midterm polls, Sheraz said.

"The market traded in both directions amid cautious investor sentiment ahead of the SBP's MPC announcement, with market participants largely anticipating a 50-basis-point hike in the policy rate," Arif Habib Limited Deputy Head of Trading Ali Najib commented.

Later, the central bank raised the policy rate by 50 basis points to 12%, in line with market expectations. The decision reflected heightened geopolitical risks stemming from the US-Iran conflict, which drove international oil and commodity prices higher, raising concerns over domestic inflationary pressures. On the geopolitical front, Pakistan's Chief of Defence Forces arrived in Tehran for high-level talks involving Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye.

FPCCI dairy round table calls for immediate start of Islamabad Safe Milk City Pilot

Federal Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain attends as Chief Guest; industry calls for a dairy sector reform

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) today held a Dairy Round Table Conference on "Dairy Sector Reforms" at FPCCI Capital House, Islamabad. Organized by the FPCCI Central Standing Committee on Dairy & Dairy Products, it called for the Islamabad Safe Milk City pilot to begin without delay and strengthen and properly regulate Pakistan's safe milk laws to align with international benchmarks. Federal Minister for National Food Security & Research, Rana Tanveer Hussain, attended as Chief Guest.

The conference focused on three agenda: Dairy Sector Reforms and the Need for a Level Playing Field for the Industry; Safe Dairy: Securing the Future of the Formal Dairy Sector; and Dairy Sector Growth: Issues, Challenges and Their Solutions.

Welcoming the participants, Mr. Karim Aziz Malik, Chairman / Incharge FPCCI Capital Office, said that dairy is one of the largest and most important sectors

of Pakistan's economy. FPCCI is the platform where industry and government sit together to discuss challenges of dairy sector and proposed the solutions. A safe, formal and competitive dairy sector can raise farmer incomes, protect public health and open new export markets for Pakistan.

Addressing the conference as Chief Guest, Federal Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain said that safe and nutritious milk is central to the nation's food security and health, and that the government recognizes the dairy sector's role in the livelihoods of millions of rural families.

Dr. Shehzad Amin, Convener of the FPCCI Central Standing Committee on Dairy & Dairy Products and Chief Operating Officer of PDA, said "Pakistan is among the world's largest milk producers, and more than 8 million rural families depend on livestock, which provides around 35 to 40 percent of their income. Consumers buy milk worth PKR 8.2 trillion every year, out of which only PKR 372 billion is captured by the formal segment,

leaving nearly PKR 7.9 trillion locked within the informal market. Formalizing just a portion of this immense value carries an economic potential of more than Rs 7.5 trillion. The sector's potential is far greater than what we realize today, and reform is the key to unlocking it," he said. He also highlighted that the formal dairy industry cannot compete on a level playing field while most milk escapes any regulation. "About 95 percent of Pakistan's dairy sector is informal, with no safety or quality checks, no traceability and heavy loss of nutrients. A UVAS study found that 92% of loose milk samples failed to comply with quality and safety standards. The formal 5% is safe, tested, traceable and rich in nutrients. Two glasses a day deliver roughly 600 mg of calcium, about 16 g of high-quality protein, plus vitamin B12, riboflavin, vitamin A, and potassium. Safe milk is not a privilege for the few; it is the right of every household. Safe Milk, Safe Nation," he said.

What is at stake.

- Over 40% of children under five are stunted, 17.7 % are wasted and 28.9 % are underweight.
- 25.7% of women of reproductive age are severely vitamin D deficient.



- Pakistan spends approximately USD 14 billion a year on healthcare, which drains revenue and slows growth.

The way forward. PDA set out three pillars for formalizing the sector:

1. Farmer wellbeing: strengthen the livelihoods of more than 8 million households through genetic improvement, balanced feed and silage for smallholders and preventive animal health services.
2. Foreign Direct Investment and Pakistan as the Last Dairy Frontier: Pakistan stands globally as the last major dairy frontier. With a colossal informal consumer base of PKR 7.9 trillion, formalizing the sector presents an unprecedented growth runway. Global dairy

companies and international investors are eager to enter Pakistan as the last bastion of growth worldwide. Formalization will unlock massive Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)—building on active interest already shown by partners in China, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE—to transform the landscape of our national dairy industry.

3. Export Growth as a Consequence of Yield Improvement: Yield enhancement directly drives export capabilities. By upgrading farm productivity, boosting animal performance, and formalizing processing channels, surplus high-quality production will expand far beyond the current USD 500 million export baseline.

Prime Minister's Coordinator on

Agriculture & Food Security Mr. Ahmed Umair highlighted the government's focus on farmer welfare, livestock productivity and food security, while FPCCI Policy Advisory Board Chairman Mian Zahid Hussain, Sitara-e-Imtiaz, stressed that a level playing field and consistent policy are essential to attract investment into the dairy sector.

Immediate actions. The conference called for two immediate actions:

1. Enforce Robust Legislation: Strengthen and properly regulate Pakistan's safe milk laws to align with international benchmarks.
2. Start the Islamabad Safe Milk City pilot now. PDA has prepared a complete, detailed proposal and submitted it to the relevant stakeholders. Islamabad hosts 2.4 million residents, consumes about 700,000 liters of milk daily, and features 3,992 milk operators. Executing this pilot will provide every household with safe, tested, and traceable milk, integrate operators into the formal economy, reduce milk-borne illnesses, and serve as a showcase for investors and international markets. defining clear roles for the Capital Development Authority and the Islamabad Food Authority.

Changes on cards as Pakistan face Sri Lanka

Hosts weigh team reshuffle; Saim Ayub exits squad over poor form

STAFF REOPRTER

LAHORE: Pakistan, who have already qualified for the final, are expected to make changes to their playing XI when they take on Sri Lanka in their last league game of the ODI tri-series at Gaddafi Stadium Lahore on Tuesday.

Left-handed opener Saim Ayub, who was under an immense pressure due to his poor form, was released from the squad on Monday and replaced by Sahibzada Farhan. Farhan had led his T20 side to a 2-1 victory in the three-match series against Sri Lanka in Rawalpindi.

Farhan was in sublime form during that series as a skipper, but the ODI squad had been announced earlier, ruling him out of selection at the time. He has now been given an opportunity and could feature in Tuesday's game.

Maaz Sadqat, another hard-hitting left-handed opener, is also in the squad as cover for players carrying minor niggles.

Although Pakistan have managed totals of more than 300 in their first two games against Sri Lanka and England, they have major concerns at the top of the order. Fakhar Zaman has also been out of form, scoring only 26 runs in three matches.

Babar Azam failed to convert promising starts in the first two games before falling for just ten against England on Sunday, a match Pakistan won by one wicket thanks to Shadab Khan's maiden ODI century.

Pakistan urgently need to promote Agha Salman in the batting order. The former Pakistan captain is in prolific form and could provide greater stability in the top order if given the opportunity to bat higher.



Babar, Pakistan's Test captain, will need to raise his game. He should play straight and go deep to make the things easier for his side.

Naseem Shah, who has dislocated a finger on his left hand, is unlikely to return. Young pacer Razaullah impressed on his debut against England on Sunday, taking 2-38. It would be interesting to see what changes the team management will make for a game which will serve only as a practice show for the hosts ahead of their October 31 final.

The Gaddafi Stadium pitch offered assistance to fast bowlers on Sunday, and

Shaheen Shah Afridi made the most of the conditions, taking 4-46. He had also claimed 3-55 against Sri Lanka earlier in the series.

Tuesday's match is crucial for Sri Lanka, as a victory would secure their place in the final against Pakistan.

If Sri Lanka lose, England will have another opportunity to qualify when they face the islanders in their final league match on Thursday.

Sri Lanka are in excellent form after completing a record chase of 430 against England in their previous match, the second-highest successful run chase in ODI

history.

Pavan Rathnayake (130), Avishka Fernando (97), Dasun Shanaka (97) and Janith Liyanage (61) were the key contributors to that remarkable victory. The triumph also highlighted the superb batting intelligence of Sri Lanka's batsmen at a time when they prepare for the 2027 ODI World Cup.

Sri Lanka will need to bowl well against a Pakistan side featuring in-form batsmen Hasan Nawaz, Agha Salman and all-rounders Arafat Minhas and Shadab Khan, who has been in prolific form with the bat.

Asia Cup Prize Money Dispute: KP Ombudsman issues final notice to Director General Sports

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: The Provincial Ombudsman of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has issued a final hearing notice to the Director General of Sports, Culture, Tourism and Youth Affairs over a complaint alleging that two players and a coach from an Asia Cup-winning team were denied their prize money.

According to the notice, the hearing has been scheduled for November 3, 2026, at 11:00 am.

The Ombudsman Secretariat stated that despite repeated notices and reminders, the concerned department had not submitted a written response, causing delays in the disposal of the complaint.

The department has been directed to nominate an officer of BPS-17 or above who is fully familiar with the case and authorised to make decisions on behalf of the department. It has also been instructed to produce the original case file and all relevant records at the hearing.

The notice warns that if the department fails to appear or comply with the directions, the complaint may be decided on the basis of the available record without issuing any further notice.

The notice was signed by Shabana Gul, Director of Investigation at the Provincial Ombudsman Secretariat. A copy was also sent to the complainant, Muhammad Masood.

The complaint concerns the alleged non-payment of prize money to two players and a coach associated with an Asia Cup-winning team. However, the allegations have yet to be established through a final decision by the Ombudsman.

7-member National Tenpin Bowling Team to participate in 28th Asian Bowling Championship

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: 7-member national tenpin bowling team will participate in the 28th Asian Bowling Championship. The Championship will be held from November 12 to 22, in Doha, Qatar. Secretary General, Pakistan Tenpin Bowling Federation, Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) Kamran Khalid Janjua, announced the names of the players 7-member national team, including Ahmar Saldera, Ghazanfar Bilal, Abdul Moeiz, Daniyal Shah, Daniyal-ur-Rehman, and Ejaz-ur-Rehman, while Amjad Ali will serve as the team manager. Bowlers from various Asian countries will participate in the 28th Asian Bowling Championship.

71st National Track Cycling Championship to be held in Lahore from December 11

ISLAMABAD: The 71st Pakistan National Track Cycling Championship 2026 will be held at the Cycling Velodrome, Nishtar Stadium, Qaddafi Stadium, Lahore, from December 11 to 13, featuring elite and junior men's and women's categories. Organised by the Pakistan Cycling Federation (PCF), the three-day championship will feature teams representing the Pakistan Army, Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC), Gilgit-Baltistan Scouts, Bikestan Cycling Academy and Crank Addicts, alongside cyclists from the four provinces, Islamabad and Gilgit-Baltistan.

Kane tipped to beat Yamal, Mbappe to Ballon d'Or glory

Alexia Putellas leads the women's race as Bonmati's three-year reign nears its end after injury setbacks

LONDON: Harry Kane is favourite to become England's first Ballon d'Or winner in 25 years when the award is presented in London on Monday, but he faces stiff competition from La Liga pair Lamine Yamal and Kylian Mbappe.

Alexia Putellas is the clear frontrunner to win the women's prize for a third time, with Aitana Bonmati's three-year reign set to come to an end after an injury-hit spell.

The ceremony to decide the world's best male and female footballers is being held in London for the first time — 70 years

after England winger Stanley Matthews was presented with the inaugural award.

Bayern Munich and England forward Kane struck a remarkable 73 goals in 65 games for club and country last season, propelling the German giants to a league and cup double.

But semi-final exits in both the Champions League and at the World Cup in the United States mean a triumph for Kane at the London Palladium is far from certain.

"I'd love to be able to achieve something like that. It would be a massive milestone

in my career," said the 33-year-old former Tottenham forward.

"I think my wife would prefer to know and my family... it's very stressful for everyone," added the England captain.

Only four players from England have won the Ballon d'Or: Michael Owen was the last to triumph in 2001, following in the footsteps of Matthews, Bobby Charlton and Kevin Keegan.

Bayern coach Vincent Kompany praised Kane's focus on his team, saying: "What made Harry happy the most in recent years is that he finally won his first team trophies here.

"Now if he can crown his career or his season with the Ballon d'Or, that would be deserved for the way he plays for the

team."

"I deserve it"

Yamal finished second to Paris Saint-Germain's Ousmane Dembele last year and the 19-year-old Barcelona superstar seems destined to be a Ballon d'Or winner one day.

However, a hamstring injury ended his club season early and he failed to show his most irresistible form during Spain's World Cup triumph, which was built on impressive teamwork.

But that has not diminished his confidence ahead of the ceremony.

"For me, Mbappe and me, we're the two best players in the world," Yamal said last month.

"I honestly think that, as the best in the

world, maybe there are two of us, and this year I would deserve it because of what I've won."

Mbappe, by contrast, boasts plenty of personal milestones without medals for either Real Madrid or France.

The 27-year-old was top goalscorer in La Liga, the Champions League and the World Cup without winning any of those trophies.

His 10 World Cup goals in North America made him the top goalscorer in the competition's history, on 22.

"Being the all-time top scorer in World Cup history, overtaking all the great legends in the history of the sport in the most important tournament there is, is something that really stands out," said

Mbappe.

"Who am I voting for? Myself"

The Ballon d'Or was established by the magazine France Football, with the first award given to Matthews in 1956.

One football journalist from each of the 100 top nations in FIFA's rankings is invited to cast votes for their top 10 players from a 30-man shortlist.

Although the award carries no cash prize, it can generate huge bonuses from clubs and commercial partners as well as increasing a player's overall market value.

Putellas, winner of the women's award in 2021 and 2022, was a member of the Barcelona side that regained the Champions League last season before moving to London City Lionesses.

DG Sports KP conducts surprise inspection of Hayatabad Sports Complex

Action Taken Against Absent Employees; Focus on Cleanliness, Attendance and Sports Facilities



SPORTS REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Director General Sports

Complex, Peshawar, to review cleanliness, staff attendance and sports facilities. Action was taken against absent employees.

Director Establishment Nematullah Marwat, Assistant Director Muhammad Ashfaq, Director Operations Jamshed Baloch, Administrator Abid Afridi, Yousaf Afridi and other officials accompanied him during the inspection.

The DG Sports visited various sports venues and reviewed cleanliness, maintenance and available facilities. He directed the concerned officials to improve management, ensure timely staff attendance and maintain proper cleanliness across the complex.

Wasil Khan said that negligence and absence from duty would not be tolerated. He emphasized that sports complexes must provide quality facilities and a suitable environment for athletes and the public.

He directed officials to strengthen the monitoring system and ensure discipline and better management, adding that inspections would continue to improve sports infrastructure and facilities across the province.

Saad Mehsud wins gold medal in MMA championship 2026

MUHAMMAD REHAN

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: 19-year-old Saad Mehsud from Dera Ismail Khan won a gold medal in the MMA Championship 2026 held in Kazakhstan.

According to details, in the Nomad MMA Championship 2026 held in Kazakhstan, 19-year-old Pakistani fighter Saad Mehsud, son of Vice President of Central Anjuman-e-Tajran Sher Muhammad Mehsud and belonging to Dera Ismail Khan, won the gold medal with outstanding performance, bringing glory to the region and the country and nation. His hard work, dedication, courage and excellent game has created a moment of pride for his family and Pakistanis. Saad Mehsud is also National Silver Medalist 2025 and now he is preparing to compete for the championship belt. His progress is being described as an important achievement for Mixed Martial Arts in Pakistan. With the collaboration of Prime Minister Youth Program and Pakistan Mixed Martial Arts Federation (PMMAF), Saad Mehsud's participation in the championship has been described as part of struggle to win gold medal and championship belt for Pakistan.



Karachi's Ayesha Hassan wins gold medal at powerlifting championship in Nepal

Hassan credits hard work, training and coach Usman's guidance for her achievement

STAFF REPORTER

KARACHI: Powerlifter Ayesha Hassan has made Pakistan proud by winning a gold medal in the Masters Category 1 at an international powerlifting championship in Nepal.

Her achievement reflects her dedication, hard work and determination.

With intensive training and guidance from her coach, Usman, Ayesha has demonstrated that Pakistani women can excel in strength sports on the interna-

tional stage.

Usman's OSM Fitness has played an important role in supporting Ayesha's training and helping her reach this level of performance.

Powerlifter Ayesha Hassan performs a bench press during an international powerlifting championship in Nepal.—Reporter

Powerlifter Ayesha Hassan performs a bench press during an international powerlifting championship in Nepal.—Reporter



Under the International Powerlifting Federation's rules, athletes compete in age and bodyweight categories, allowing performances to be assessed among competitors in the same divisions.

The federation's Masters I category covers athletes aged 40 to 49, although the classification used at Hassan's event should be confirmed with its organisers.

Hassan's victory, which has also received coverage from Pakistani news channels, is a proud moment for Karachi and Pakistan.

Her achievement can serve as an inspiration to women aspiring to compete in strength sports and pursue excellence in athletics.



Rashmika Mandanna drops truth bomb on critics

ISLAMABAD: Following their appearance on Koffee With Karan Season 9, Rashmika Mandanna and Vijay Deverakonda have been in the news. After Vijay disclosed that Rashmika had proposed to him 100 times, the couple's interaction on the show caused a social media controversy. Reactions to his statement were divided; some social media users questioned the actor's treatment of Rashmika and criticized him. Rashmika Mandanna responded to the criticism and defended her husband on social media a few days after the incident aired. The actress shared a video with the two on Instagram and wrote a long statement across online platforms in which she expressed how disappointed she was with the criticism of their relationship. The Pushpa actress penned, saying, "I generally don't address these things because everyone has a right to their opinions. Sometimes, I even enjoy reading them and gaining a different perspective. But the current frenzy over our interview feels less like people having opinions and more like an angry mob looking for someone to vent at." "I would do it a thousand times. 100 is nothing. It's really that simple. And for those who seem to be absolutely blinded by their own narratives... We have both built our lives on our own terms, with our own choices and our own hard work. We are smart, capable adults, blessed with the freedom and privilege to choose how we want to live and whom we want to share our lives with. And we chose US," Rashmika continued.



CHICHAWATNI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif visits the residence of late MNA Chaudhary Muhammad Munir Azhar to offer condolences over the demise of the Parliamentarian in Chichawatni on Monday. — PHOTO: PID

Peace in SA impossible without resolution of J&K issue: PM

The people of IIOJK endured immense hardship, suffering and repression: Shehbaz

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif reiterated that Pakistan's position on Jammu and Kashmir remained clear, consistent and principled, emphasizing that lasting peace and stability in South Asia cannot be achieved without a just and peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

In a message on Jammu and Kashmir Black Day, being observed on October 27, he said, "On this Jammu & Kashmir Black Day, the Government and people of Pakistan reaffirm their unwavering solidarity with the people of IIOJK."

The prime minister reaffirmed that

Pakistan would continue to extend its moral, diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiri people, and to advocate for their legitimate rights at every national and international forum.

Seventy-nine years ago, he said Indian forces landed in Srinagar, marking the beginning of a tragic chapter in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, one that continues to cast its long shadow over the region to this day.

Since then, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been denied the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination, as affirmed in the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, he added.

The prime minister observed that the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) had en-

dured immense hardship, suffering and repression. Yet their courage, resilience and unwavering resolve to secure their fundamental rights remain undiminished.

The sacrifices of successive generations stood as a powerful testament to their enduring commitment to freedom, dignity and justice, he added.

"India has continued its efforts to suppress legitimate political expression and silence the voices that represent the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. The prolonged incarceration of Kashmiri political leaders, activists and human rights defenders remains deeply concerning. It underscores the need for due process, respect for basic liberties, and greater international attention to the situation in Jammu and Kashmir," PM Office Media Wing, in a press release, quoted the prime

minister as saying.

Since 5 August 2019, he said India had taken a series of unilateral measures in IIOJK, accompanied by sweeping restrictions on fundamental freedoms. These measures, affecting the political, legal and demographic character of the territory, had drawn serious international attention.

"Pakistan has consistently called for these developments to be addressed in accordance with international law and the applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions," he emphasized.

On the solemn occasion, the prime minister also paid tribute to the countless Kashmiri men, women and children who had offered immense sacrifices in pursuit of their rights, adding that their memory would always be honoured.

Ayesha meets CS-KP to review anti-polio efforts



STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Eradication Ayesha Raza Farooq called on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Secretary Dr. Muhammad Fakhare Alam Irfan at the Chief Secretary's Office in Peshawar on Monday, where the two discussed ongoing efforts to eradicate polio from the province.

The meeting reviewed the current polio situation, the outcomes of recent vaccination campaigns and the challenges still being faced. Participants examined

micro-planning for the campaigns, a co-ordinated strategy, campaign monitoring and quality assurance, and measures to ensure that every child is reached.

Detailed consultations were also held on conducting a uniform, simultaneous anti-polio campaign across the entire province. The participants described the approach as crucial to controlling the spread of the virus. The meeting reaffirmed that eradicating polio is a national mission requiring collective effort, and that all available resources would be employed to achieve this goal.

Effective protection of human rights essential for improving country's global image and international rankings: Amir Javed

All relevant institutions were directed to strengthen interdepartmental coordination and information-sharing mechanisms: Member Advisory Council for Law

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: Effective protection of human rights has been described as a key factor in strengthening a country's global image, international credibility and standing in global indicators, Member of the Advisory Council for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Amir Javed has said.

He emphasized that institutional meas-

ures for the protection of human rights needed to be further strengthened and coordinated in view of international benchmarks, including gender disparity, the Human Rights Index and GSP Plus requirements.

He expressed these views while chairing a joint meeting of the Directorate of Law and Human Rights, the Ombudsperson for Women and the Provincial Ombudsman

in Peshawar. The meeting was convened in pursuance of directions issued during the previous meeting to strengthen institutional networking and coordination among the relevant departments.

It was pointed out that 13 institutions were working in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for the protection and promotion of human rights, with public funds being allocated to support their functions. The need for an integrated coordination and referral mechanism, along with a common digital portal, was emphasized to ensure effective utilization of resources and improved institutional performance.

Through the proposed digital portal, activities, complaints, referrals and pro-



gress reports of all relevant institutions would be consolidated, enabling systematic performance monitoring, preventing duplication of efforts and facilitating the effective resolution of public grievances.

It was further directed that the assistance of the ADC Relief and Human Rights be sought, if required, and serious practical measures be taken to ensure the operationalization of the proposed digital portal.

All relevant institutions were directed to strengthen interdepartmental coordination and information-sharing mechanisms, with particular emphasis on achieving measurable results in the protection and promotion of human rights.

Spot ON

Health Minister meets MNA Abdul Qadir Gilani

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Syed Mustafa Kamal met Member of the National Assembly Abdul Qadir Gilani to discuss matters of mutual interest and issues related to the country's health sector.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on healthcare-related matters and discussed issues concerning the country's health sector.

They also discussed the importance of continued coordination and cooperation to address healthcare challenges and improve the delivery of health services across the country.

DHO plans breast cancer awareness event on Oct 31

ISLAMABAD: The District Health Office (DHO) Islamabad has planned a breast cancer awareness event on October 31 as part of its Pinktober campaign to promote early detection and preventive healthcare. The preparations were reviewed at a meeting chaired by District Health Officer Dr Syeda Rashida Batool, where participants discussed strategies to raise public awareness about breast cancer.

The meeting focused on encouraging early detection, promoting community engagement and highlighting the importance of timely screening and medical consultation.

FAO, WHO, NIH to prioritize zoonotic diseases in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has conducted facilitator training for the One Health Zoonotic Disease Prioritization (OHZDP) process in Islamabad to strengthen coordination among human, animal and environmental health sectors.

From October 27 to 29, FAO, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will bring together representatives from the three sectors to identify and prioritize zoonotic diseases of greatest concern in Pakistan.

DRAP, WHO launch drive to strengthen medicine safety

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP), with technical support from the World Health Organization (WHO), has launched a pharmacovigilance outreach campaign to strengthen medicine safety and encourage reporting of suspected adverse drug reactions across healthcare institutions and academic organisations. As part of the initiative, representatives of DRAP's National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPC) met with the Chief Executive Officer of the KPHCC and the Deputy Secretary of the provincial Health Department to discuss cooperation on patient safety, pharmacovigilance and stakeholder coordination.

KP reports 51 new dengue cases

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has reported 51 new dengue cases in the past 24 hours, bringing the total number of infections in the province to 4,856, according to the latest report issued by the Health Department on Monday.

The report stated that 199 patients are currently under treatment, while 4,656 patients have recovered from the disease. No new dengue-related deaths were reported during the past 24 hours. The province has recorded one death from dengue so far.

Kohat remains the worst-affected district, with 2,822 reported cases, including 132 active cases.



In Peshawar, the total number of dengue cases has reached 611, while 430 cases have been reported in Khyber district and 192 in Bannu.

The Health Department has urged citizens to take precautionary measures to prevent the spread of dengue and seek medical attention if symptoms appear.