



Global peace will remain a distant dream without resolving Jammu & Kashmir and Palestine Issues

National Assembly Speaker  
Sardar Ayaz Sadiq

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## Naqvi meets Azerbaijan's Minister of State for internal affairs Ismat Rashid Aliyev



ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister and Head of Anti-Narcotics Mohsin Naqvi held a meeting with Azerbaijan's Minister of State for Internal Affairs, Ismat Rashid Aliyev on Thursday in Turkiye. The high-level meeting took place during the Istanbul International Expo, where the two leaders discussed ways to further strengthen the long-standing fraternal ties between Pakistan and Azerbaijan.

During the meeting, both ministers engaged in comprehensive discussions on multifaceted bilateral relations, with a focus on matters of mutual interest. The dialogue covered a wide range of topics, including security, economic collaboration, and cultural exchanges. The leaders highlighted the deep-rooted historical and cultural connections that bind Pakistan and Azerbaijan, emphasizing the need to build upon the existing partnership.

One of the key points of discussion was the Pakistan Navy's recent successful operation in the Northern Arabian Sea, which resulted in the seizure of over 2,400 kilograms of narcotics worth an estimated \$145 million. Minister Aliyev praised the Pakistan Navy's swift action and commended the effective leadership of Minister Naqvi in guiding the nation's anti-narcotics efforts. He acknowledged Pakistan's critical role in combating drug trafficking in the region and highlighted how such operations are crucial for regional stability.

In response, Minister Naqvi expressed his gratitude for Azerbaijan's support and reiterated Pakistan's commitment to enhancing its anti-narcotics efforts. He emphasized the importance of joint collaboration in tackling cross-border crimes such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, and terrorism. "We salute the dedication of our security forces, and together with Azerbaijan, we can further solidify our resolve to eliminate these threats," Naqvi said. The Azerbaijani Minister of State also took the opportunity to visit the Pakistani pavilion at the Istanbul International Expo, where he expressed a keen interest in the products and technologies on display. He was particularly impressed by the advanced machinery and modern equipment showcased by Pakistan Ordnance Factories.

Aliyev lauded Pakistan's technological advancements and manufacturing capabilities, noting that such innovations present ample opportunities for future collaboration between the two countries, particularly in defense and industrial sectors. Both ministers agreed that there is significant potential for enhancing cooperation in various sectors, including border management, human trafficking prevention, and security coordination. They also highlighted the need for continuous efforts to further strengthen their countries' ties and explored ways to enhance trade, defense, and cultural exchanges.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Thursday visited an operational air base of Pakistan Air Force to witness the ongoing multinational exercise Indus Shield-2024.

## PM meets newly appointed community & labour welfare attaches

### PM Shehbaz for using technology to improve tax, revenue collection

*VOM Report*

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday directed the newly appointed community and labor welfare attachés at Pakistani missions abroad to work diligently to find employment opportunities for skilled workers from Pakistan.

"I am confident that your appointment has taken place through a highly transparent process," the prime minister said while talking to the group of the attachés here at the PM House.

He advised that the welfare of the overseas Pakistani community should be their top priority.

"Overseas Pakistanis who are bringing valuable foreign exchange worth billions of dollars to Pakistan are our assets," he said. He instructed to always keep Pakistan's interests in their mind besides making vigorous efforts to promote Pakistan's image abroad. The prime minister directed the newly appointed attachés to also seek opportunities to bring business and investment to Pakistan. The officials briefed the prime minister about their action plans related to their respective stations.



The prime minister expressed his best wishes for the officials. The meeting was attended by the Prime Minister's Special Assistant Tariq Fatemi, the Prime Minister's Coordinator Rana Ehsan Afzal, and other senior government officials. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday directed the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to utilise modern technology to improve the collection mechanism of taxes and revenues. The prime minister, chairing a review meeting

on the FBR reforms, instructed the measures for capacity building of the FBR officers and its effective use, according to a PM Office press release.

He directed the formulation of a strategy for restructuring Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited (PRAL) and called for enhancing the effectiveness of the systems to curb smuggling. The prime minister directed the FBR to provide a friendly atmosphere to the taxpayers and asked the officers to accomplish the reform process.

## COAS visits PAF operational air base to witness ongoing multinational exercise

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Thursday visited an operational air base of Pakistan Air Force to witness the ongoing multinational exercise Indus Shield-2024.

The COAS was received by Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu. Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf was also in presence at the occasion, an Inter Services Public Relations news release said.

Exercise Indus Shield-2024 is the biggest multinational exercise of the region that is witnessing participation from 24 esteemed Air Forces converging to foster interoperability and training through state-of-the-art facilities embodying the exercise motto; "Stronger When Together."

COAS expressed his satisfaction over the combat readiness of Pakistan Air Force and the progress made through various modernization and up-gradation programs. Later, he witnessed exercise operations, static display of various niche and disruptive technologies where he was briefed on the modernization efforts of Pakistan Air Force to stay abreast with contemporary security challenges which was later followed by an enthralling aerial display by PAF fighter jets. COAS also interacted with the aircrew and appreciated the resolve of PAF personnel to safeguard the aerial frontiers of Pakistan. He emphasized on the critical role of inter-service collaboration, which he believes is essential for achieving operational success. Chief of Air Staff expressed his gratitude for COAS's visit, reinforcing the commitment to enhance cooperation between the army and air force in both training and operational contexts. Air Chief apprised COAS on modernization and indigenization drive being carried out by PAF through induction of state of the art weapon systems.

While speaking at the occasion, Air Chief highlighted that the ongoing exercise Indus Shield-2024 will go a long way in bolstering interoperability amongst the participating nations and will train their air & ground crews to face contemporary warfare challenges. PR

## President, PM laud successful anti-terror operation in Bajaur

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday appreciated the security forces for carrying out a successful intelligence-based anti-terror operation in Bajaur.

The president and prime minister, in separately issued statements, appreciated the gallantry of the personnel and officers of the security forces in eliminating nine terrorists including suicide bombers and a mastermind of terrorists.

"The whole nation is united against terrorism. The people as well as the security forces will collectively foil the nefarious designs of terrorists," the president said and reiterated the country's resolve for continuous action till the elimination of terrorists. Prime Minister Shehbaz said that the entire nation stood to support their security forces in the war against terrorism. The war against terrorism will continue till its elimination of this scourge in toto, he added.

## Pakistan values its enduring relationship with Sri Lanka: CJCSC



RAWALPINDI: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), General Sahir Shamsah Mirza on Thursday said that Pakistan valued its enduring relationship with Sri Lanka, and highlighted the shared commitment to fortifying bilateral ties, particularly in defense and security. He made these remarks during a call on paid by

Commander Sri Lanka Air Force, Air Marshal RAUP Rajapaksa, who is on an official visit to Pakistan, to the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee here at Joint Staff Headquarters, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

During the meeting, both sides reiterated their commitment to enhancing bilateral security and defense collaboration.

Air Marshal RAUP Rajapaksa, appreciated the high professional standards of Pakistan Armed Forces, their achievements in fight against terrorism and continued efforts for regional peace and stability. Earlier, upon arrival at Joint Staff Headquarters, a smartly turned out tri-services contingent presented 'Guard of Honour' to Commander of the Sri Lankan Air Force. PR

## Finance Minister invites US enterprises to invest in Pakistan

WASHINGTON DC: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has invited the US enterprises to invest in agriculture, IT and energy sectors of Pakistan. During a meeting with the US Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs in Washington, he acknowledged the importance of the Pak-US economic partnership in Pakistan's socio-economic development. Muhammad Aurangzeb meets with Minister of State for Financial Affairs of the UAE: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb met with Minister of State for Financial Affairs of the UAE Mohamed bin Hadi Al Hussaini and appreciated the UAE's continued support for Pakistan's external account.

Muhammad Aurangzeb meets with a team of FitchRatings: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb met with the team of FitchRatings and briefed on Pakistan's economic performance.

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb meets with a team of Standard Chartered Bank: During a meeting with a team of Standard Chartered Bank, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb appreciated the Bank's longstanding partnership with Pakistan.

## ADB country director calls on Shaza Fatima

*VOM Report*

ISLAMABAD: Country Director Asian Development Bank (ADB) Ms. Emma Fan called on Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Thursday and discussed matters of mutual interest. According to news release during the meeting issues relating to further strengthening collaboration between Pakistan and ADB, Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program, and IT and Telecom sector were discussed in detail. Secretary IT Zarrar Hasham Khan and Special Secretary IT & Telecom Division Azfar Manzoor were also present in the meeting.

Shaza Fatima said under the vision of the Prime Minister of Pakistan present government is taking steps for the development of IT and



Telecommunication sector of the country. The government is fully supporting the private sector, adding that Ministry of IT is taking alongside the IT industry for increasing IT exports. Pakistan's IT exports are increasing, she maintained. Shaza Fatima said Pakistan is embarking on the process of digital transformation. Governance, economy and society are being digitalised, she added. She said ADB has very important role in digitalization process in Pakistan.

## Dar emphasizes the critical importance of transforming the workforce across the Commonwealth

### Says the Commonwealth Business Forum stands as a beacon of collaboration & innovation for our shared community

SAMOA: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar has reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to strengthening democratic institutions, fostering economic growth and addressing the urgent challenge posed by climate change.

Ishaq Dar expressed these views while addressing the Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting held in Apia, Samoa on Thursday.

The meeting brought together the Foreign Ministers from across the Commonwealth in the lead up to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting to deliberate on key issues facing the Member States.

The Deputy Prime Minister presented Pakistan's perspective on several critical issues on the agenda of the Commonwealth, including resilient institutions and societies, strong democratic institutions,

robust economies, and environment. He underscored the importance of collaboration among Commonwealth nations in building societies that can withstand and adapt to global challenges.

He also expressed Pakistan's full support to the Commonwealth and its commitment to working with member countries to develop robust solutions to common challenges.

Ishaq Dar called for increased investment in digital infrastructure and transformative technologies to accelerate economic modernization and enhanced productivity across the Commonwealth. Addressing the Commonwealth Business Forum in Samoa, he underscored the crucial role of the Commonwealth Business Forum as a platform for collaboration, trade, and investment, impacting millions across the Commonwealth.



The Deputy Prime Minister emphasized the critical importance of transforming the workforce across the Commonwealth.

He called for urgent investment in education, skill development, and entrepreneurship to harness the potential of our workforce, which is a key driver of technological innovation and economic transformation. Ishaq Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to contributing to the prosperity of the Commonwealth and called for a shared vision for sustainable growth, enhanced intra-Commonwealth trade, and economic and social progress.

He also highlighted Pakistan's national efforts aimed at empowering its workforce and to prepare it for a rapidly evolving global economy. Ishaq Dar said that the Commonwealth Business Forum stands as a beacon of

collaboration and innovation for our shared community. It is a unique platform, that enables us to address issues of economic development, trade, and investment, while fostering deeper cooperation across the 56 member nations. The work being done here, directly impacts millions of people across the Commonwealth, advancing prosperity and resilience in our respective economies.

The theme of today's session, "Transforming Our Workforce," is not only timely but also crucial. Our workforce is the backbone of our economic development and a key driver in achieving inclusive growth. Across the Commonwealth, we share a common asset—our youth. Ishaq Dar said that over 60% of the Commonwealth's population is under the age of 30. This demography represents immense potential, a generation ready to

reshape industries, drive technological innovation, and lead the next wave of economic transformation. However, to harness this potential, it is imperative that we invest in education, skill development, and the digital economy. We must ensure that our workforce, particularly our youth, is equipped with the tools necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing global landscape. Furthermore, promoting entrepreneurship, building resilient economies, and fostering an inclusive environment; where all can contribute meaningfully, must be at the heart of our endeavors.

Ishaq Dar said that as we look to the future, we must recognize the critical role that a strong, well-prepared workforce plays in building sustainable economies. A workforce that is skilled, adaptable, and empowered is the cornerstone of economic resilience. SABAH

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## Each one to teach one

HASSAN BAIG

Education is a right, not a privilege, for every citizen of Pakistan. The country faces significant challenges in achieving universal literacy and numeracy, with approximately 70 million illiterate individuals. With a literacy rate of 62.8 per cent, Pakistan ranks as the second lowest in South Asia. This issue severely undermines the country's development goals and its international commitments, including Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.6 and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). In response, Pakistan is both constitutionally and internationally obligated to promote literacy and education. There are various approaches to increasing literacy. One possible initiative could be the 'Each One Teach One' campaign, aimed at eradicating illiteracy and further empowering citizens across Pakistan. This would involve engaging students from schools, colleges, and universities, as well as employees from multinational organisations, and public- and private-sector entities, to serve as literacy teachers. Such an initiative could effectively harness the potential of the education and corporate sectors to address the literacy crisis and improve educational outcomes nationwide.

The National Commission for Human Development (NCHD), under the Ministry of Federal Education, has been working to implement such initiatives, but these need to be carried out with full commitment. Provincial governments should also take the lead and implement similar programmes in their respective regions, as the NCHD's efforts are primarily focused on the Islamabad Capital Territory, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and Gilgit-Baltistan.

The Each One Teach One (EOTO) initiative aims to reduce illiteracy rates, enhance life skills, and create economic opportunities for participants, contributing to Pakistan's broader development goals. This initiative seeks to reach 266,833 illiterate individuals in the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) by engaging 219 educational institutions and approximately 7,000 teachers. During its initial phase, 66,759 students from Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) schools and colleges will be involved.

Aligned with Pakistan's 'Education Emergency' and the Prime Minister's Roshan Pakistan - National Literacy Drive, EOTO encourages every literate individual, including students from grade nine (9) and above in public and private schools, colleges, and universities, as well as volunteers from various sectors, to take responsibility for teaching at least one illiterate person. This creates a ripple effect that can potentially transform entire communities. It should be mandatory for all students in grades IX and X across public and private institutions to educate at least one illiterate person, adhering to the principle of Each One Teach One. Additionally, all public and private employers should be required to allocate a portion of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds towards supporting literacy programmes.

These funds should cover the costs of establishing, operating, or expanding community or employee literacy programs, which can include the use of full or part-time volunteers within their entities or beyond, as directed by the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) or any other authority designated by the federal government.

The initiative can be implemented by involving students and corporate volunteers in following a prescribed literacy syllabus approved by the Ministry of Education, comprising three Urdu books, one Math book, and a Teachers' Guide. The duration of the literacy course could be set for 12 weeks. As an incentive, participating students should receive 10 additional marks incorporated into their academic curriculum. This initiative could be rolled out biannually across all educational institutions in the Islamabad Capital Territory and the federating units, covering both public and private sectors.

Newly literate individuals could be provided with access to essential documents, such as CNICs, driving licences, and passports, free of cost as a token of appreciation for their achievements in literacy. Those who already possess these documents could be given one-time compensation upon renewal. Focal persons and teachers should undergo comprehensive orientation and training, conducted by the NCHD. Once trained, they could serve as instructors, guiding students and employees to become effective literacy teachers. The students and participating organisations could actively engage in identifying illiterate individuals within their communities to join the literacy course. A variety of incentives could be offered, such as providing each participating student and corporate volunteer with a literacy kit that includes essential books, guides, and assessment forms. The students and corporate volunteers will teach the prescribed literacy syllabus to their assigned learners and conduct regular assessments. Upon successful completion of the course, the NCHD or the relevant literacy departments of the respective provinces should issue certificates to learners and participating organisations. This achievement should be verified through a third-party assessment to ensure transparency. Students pursuing professional degrees in MA Education, MEd, and BEd may be assigned the task of educating a group of illiterate individuals as part of their teaching practice for one semester. Educated citizens could be encouraged and incentivised to volunteer in the literacy drive, extending the reach of the initiative beyond educational institutions. The Federal Board for Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE) and other respective bodies could include 10 marks for students who successfully educate illiterate individuals. Literacy could be integrated into the curriculum for students in grades 9-12, and similar measures could be adopted by higher education institutions. Institutions like PIDE and universities all over Pakistan could research adult literacy focusing on curriculum development and teaching methodologies. Following Phase One in ICT, the literacy syllabus could be digitised - enabling remote access to literacy education in all provinces of Pakistan. The Each One Teach One initiative could be integrated into existing educational frameworks and curricula, ensuring sustainability beyond the initial phase.

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## Kazakhstan celebrates the 34th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Sovereignty



H.E. Mr. Yerzhan Kistafin

Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan, on the Occasion of Republic Day of Kazakhstan

On October 25 Kazakhstan celebrates the 34th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Sovereignty by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Republic Day is of immense importance in the history of Kazakhstan, symbolizing the beginning of our journey toward state sovereignty and the consolidation of our independence. Over the past three decades, the country has developed dynamically, with a strong focus on socio-economic and foreign policy development.

There are some key achievements in Kazakhstan's development. In 2023, Kazakhstan's foreign trade volume amounted to \$139.8 billion (exports of 78.7 billion, imports of 61.1 billion) marking a 3.2% increase year-on-year. Since 1993, Kazakhstan has attracted a total of 441 billion dollars in foreign direct investments (FDI). Top 10 investors since 2005 are the Netherlands, the USA, Switzerland, China, Russia, France, the UK, Belgium, the Republic of Korea, and Japan.

According to the FDI Intelligence ranking of the best markets for investment in emerging markets in 2024, Kazakhstan took 6th place in terms of the dynamics of attracting foreign direct investment.

Additionally, the Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC) plays a crucial role in establishing Kazakhstan as a regional business hub. In 2024, more than 3000 companies from 82 countries registered at AIFC. Since 2018, more than \$12 billion of investments have been raised through the AIFC platform.

Kazakhstan is investing heavily in digital infrastructure and is implement-

ing projects to provide extensive broadband internet access across the country. Plans are also underway to introduce 5G and high-quality data centers in urban and rural areas over the coming years.

Regarding logistics, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has prioritized the development of the "North-South" transport corridor. Kazakhstan's growing role in global trade, along with its key involvement in the Belt and Road Initiative, positions the country to open its markets to billions of people.

A total of 13 international transport corridors cross Kazakhstan, including five railroad and eight high ways. In 2023, transit traffic volume reached 32 million tons. By 2029, we plan to increase this to 35 million tons. The "Middle Corridor" (TTTR) has a throughput capacity of 6 million tons, including 100,000 TEU, over a length of 6,180 km.

In 2023, 2.76 million tons of cargo were transported along the TTTR route, a 65% increase from 2022 (1.7 million tons) and three times the volume in 2021 (840,000 tons). Cargo transportation via the TTTR in the first half of 2024 was 2.2 million tons, with plans to transport up to 4.2 million tons in 2024 overall.

Kazakhstan has also seen significant improvements in its global rankings. Kazakhstan is ranked 67th out of 193 countries in the Human Development Index 2023/2024 and has been classified under the "very high level" of human development category for the last several years.

In the 2024 IMD World Competitiveness Ranking, Kazakhstan ranked 35th among 67 nations, climbing 8 positions from 2022. This study evaluates factors such as Economic Performance, Government Efficiency, Business Efficiency, and Infrastructure.

In the Social Progress Index, Kazakhstan ranked 63rd out of 170 countries. In the 2024 Global Soft Power Index, Kazakhstan was ranked 80th out of 193 countries, leading among Central Asian states. According to the international ranking in the field of sustainable development ESG Index 2023, Kazakhstan ranked 52nd out of 183 countries.

On the international stage, Kazakhstan plays an active role in international organizations, contributing to global peacekeeping efforts, building equal and mutually beneficial relations with all countries. Astana firmly adheres to the strategic course of strengthening multilateral cooperation with the Central Asian states and is committed to further contributing to regional cooperation to ensure stability. Kazakhstan follows the principle of "A successful Central Asia is a successful Kazakhstan".

In 2024, Kazakhstan has simultaneously chaired several international organizations, including SCO, CICA, the Organization of Turkic States, the Consultative Meetings of the States of Central Asia, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Islamic Organization for Food Security, and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea.

Kazakhstan considers its participation in UN peacekeeping missions as an essential part of its foreign policy aimed at strengthening regional and global security.

The "Born Bold" campaign in Kazakhstan was launched in 2024, initiated by President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev as part of the broader efforts to modernize the country and to showcase the country's dynamic, forward-thinking approach to economic growth, social progress and innovation. It highlights Kazakhstan's strategic sectors; such as energy, logistics, education, and tourism, positioning the country as a bold and attractive destination for global businesses, investments, and cultural exchange.

It is important to mention, that from September 8 to 13, the 5th World Nomad Games took place in Astana. Throughout the week, competitions in 21 sports were held as part of the 5th WNG, along with a daily cultural program at the Ethnoaul "Universe of Nomads." Additionally, a scientific and practical conference titled "Nomads: History, Knowledge, Lessons" was held as part of the scientific program. Approximately 2,800 participants from 89 countries took part in these Games. According to estimations hundreds of thousands of people attended the Games. Kazakhstan topped the medal tally, winning a total of 112 medals, including 43 gold, 32 silver, and 37 bronze medals. Pakistan secured three bronze medals. Around 1,500 media representatives covered the Games.

In line with President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev's state of the nation Address from September 1, 2023, titled "The Economic Course of a Fair Kazakhstan", which emphasizes maintaining constructive and neighborly relations with all countries, including our South Asian neighbors, especially Pakistan, the Embassy has been working to develop multifaceted

cooperation with your beautiful country. Kazakhstan and Pakistan partnership has seen a positive trend during last years.

The growth in trade turnover between the countries amounted to 85%, or 186.3 million USD (100.7 million USD in the 2023 fiscal year), including imports of 2.3 million USD and exports of 184 million USD. Stable trade routes between our countries have been established. For instance, NLC delivered goods from Kazakhstan to the UAE through the Karachi seaport, and in cooperation with TCS, pharmaceutical products from Karachi were delivered to Baku (Azerbaijan) through Kazakhstan's Aktau seaport.

A significant achievement in our trade relations with Pakistan - earlier this year, is that Kazakhstan imported the first batch of the world famous Pakistani mangoes.

Kazakhstan and Pakistan continue to provide mutual support at the highest level in international and regional organizations.

A vivid example of this is the successful events held in Astana and Islamabad this year - the SCO Council of Heads of State and the SCO Council of Heads of Government.

While the Prime Minister of Pakistan H.E. Mr. Shehbaz Sharif attended the SCO Summit in Astana, the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan H.E. Mr. Olzhas Bektenov made the first-ever visit to Islamabad to participate in the SCO meeting. On the sidelines of this event, the Heads of Government of Kazakhstan and Pakistan held fruitful negotiations, once again confirming their mutual interest in the comprehensive development of Kazakhstan-Pakistan relations.

Several concrete agreements have been reached, and their implementation will take place in the coming months.

We must clearly understand the strategic importance of our countries in the context of developing cooperation both regionally - between Central Asia and South Asia - and on an intercontinental scale.

Kazakhstan can provide access to the markets of Greater Eurasia, while through Pakistan's seaports, there is potential access to the markets of the Gulf States, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Achieving such ambitious goals requires us to think on a large scale and reevaluate the potential for cooperation between Kazakhstan and Pakistan.

Disclaimer: Views expressed by writers in this section are their own and do not necessarily reflect The Asian Telegraph's point-of-view

## Today in History

### History of Pakistan

Pakistan encompasses a rich diversity of landscapes, starting in the northwest, from the soaring Pamirs and the Karakoram Range through a maze of mountain ranges, a complex of valleys, and inhospitable plateaus, down to the remarkably even surface of the fertile Indus River plain, which drains southward into the Arabian Sea. It contains a section of the ancient Silk Road and the Khyber Pass, the famous

passageway that has brought outside influences into the otherwise isolated subcontinent. Lofty peaks such as K2 and Nanga Parbat, in the Pakistani-administered region of Kashmir, present a challenging lure to mountain

climbers. Along the Indus River, the artery of the country, the ancient site of Mohenjo-daro marks one of the cradles of civilization.

To be continued....

## 'John Wick' director shares how Eva Longoria salvaged Keanu Reeves' movie

Eva Longoria steps up to fill financial gap for 'John Wick' movie in a new interview



John Wick director Chad Stahelski has recently spilled how Eva Longoria came to the rescue for the movie at the last minute.

In a new interview with Business Insider, Chad revealed, "We were financing independently to get the bond, but one of the investors couldn't raise the money in time."

"Eva came to the rescue and she provided the gap financing, literally less than 24 hours before we had to lock the doors on the movie and walk away," shared the director on movie's 10th anniversary.

Chad mentioned he got to know about Eva's involvement in the movie after the success of the movie.

"Basil (producer) took us out to dinner, and we were laughing about all that happened, and he said, 'By the way, funny story, you know who gap

financed you? Eva Longoria.' We were like, 'What!'" recalled the director. Reflecting on her secret collaboration, the Desperate Housewives star told Chad, "Wow, that was the best money I've ever spent." It paid back significantly for her.

Interestingly, John Wick ended up grossing \$86 million on a budget between \$20-30 million. However, John Wick: Chapter 4 reportedly earned a staggering \$440 million over a \$100 million budget.

For the unversed, Eva founded her production company, UnbeliEVable Entertainment (now Hyphenate Media Group), in 2005, and produced series like Telenovela and films like the documentary Reversing Roe.

The director added, "Eva wants to for sure, she wants to do action. I would love to work with her; we're trying to find something."

## Boeing-built Intelsat satellite lost after orbital explosion

An Intelsat communication satellite manufactured by Boeing has exploded and broken up in geostationary orbit, with Intelsat declaring it a "total loss." This incident marks another setback for Boeing, which is already dealing with various challenges, including the recent failures of the Starliner crew test flight and ongoing issues with its 737 Max and 777x aircraft. The US Space Force is actively tracking approximately 20 pieces of debris from the explosion. However, they have reported no immediate threats to other satellites in the vicinity. In contrast, the Russian space agency Roscosmos is monitoring around 80 fragments from the incident.

The cause of the explosion remains unknown, and a Failure Review Board has been convened by Intelsat to conduct a comprehensive analysis. Intelsat is currently working to transition customers to its other satellites or to third-party spacecraft to mitigate service disruption. The spokesperson for the company revealed that the satellite was uninsured,



adding to the financial ramifications of this incident. The explosion's debris could potentially pose a risk to other satellites. A representative from Spaceflux, a UK-based company that tracks objects in orbit, stated, "There is a lot of uncertainty regarding the orbits of these fragments at the moment. They can be potentially dangerous for other satellites, but we do not know that yet." The satellite in question, Intelsat 33e, is one of six "EpicNG" satellites built by Boeing and operates using the company's 720MP satellite platform. It is equipped with 16 hydrazine-powered engines manufactured by Aerojet Rocketdyne and is widely used for telephone, internet, and satellite TV/radio broadcast services.

## Study identifies key blood stem cells in immune system aging

What keeps some immune systems youthful and effective in warding off age-related diseases? In a new paper published in Cellular & Molecular Immunology, USC Stem Cell scientist Rong Lu and her collaborators point the finger at a small subset of blood stem cells, which make an outsized contribution to maintaining either a youthful balance or an age-related imbalance of the two main types of immune cells: innate and adaptive. Innate immune cells serve as the body's first line of defense, mobilizing a quick and general attack against invading germs. For germs that evade the body's innate immune defenses, the second line of attack consists of adaptive immune cells, such as B cells and T cells that rely on their memory of past infections to craft a specific and targeted response. A healthy balance between innate and adaptive immune cells is the hallmark of a youth-

ful immune system; and a key to longevity. Lu is also a member of the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at USC, and the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. "Our findings suggest that restraining the small subset of blood stem cells that are overproducing innate immune cells could be an effective way to delay immune aging."

In the study, first author Anna Nogalska and her colleagues found striking differences in how quickly the immune system ages—even among lab mice with the same genetic background raised in identical conditions. By the advanced age of 30 months, delayed aging mice retained a youthful balance of innate and adaptive immune cells. However, early aging mice showed a big increase in innate immune cells relative to adaptive

immune cells. By tracking the individual blood stem cells responsible for producing both innate and adaptive immune cells, the scientists discovered the subset of blood stem cells primarily responsible for the age-associated imbalance of the immune system. Specifically, the scientists observed that thirty to forty percent of blood stem cells dramatically changed their preference for producing innate versus adaptive immune cells as the mice aged. In delayed agers, the subset of blood stem cells decreased their production of innate immune cells, protecting against the effects of aging. Among delayed agers, there was an increase in gene activity related to blood stem cells' regulation and response to external signals; which might keep their production of innate immune cells in check.



## Health

# دی اسٹینڈرڈ سٹریٹس گراف

اسلام آباد

جمعتہ المبارک 25 اکتوبر 2024ء

## نامزد چیف جسٹس کی تقریب حلف برداری، آج ہوگی

اسلام آباد (شاف رپورٹر) نامزد چیف جسٹس جی آفریدی کی تقریب حلف برداری کے حوالے سے آج (جمعہ کو) کل 17 بجیں ریہرسل ہوگی۔ ذرائع کے مطابق تقریب حلف برداری کی کل ڈریس ریہرسل شام 4:30 بجے ایوان صدر میں ہوگی۔ ڈرائنگ کمرہ کے پریئم کورٹ کی جانب سے بھیجی گئی مہمانوں کی فہرست ایوان صدر کو موصول ہوئی۔ فہرست میں عدالتی عملے کے علاوہ 350 افراد کے نام شامل ہیں۔ ڈرائنگ کمرہ کے پریئم کورٹ کی فہرست میں شامل ہیں۔

## سیکورٹی فورسز کی باجوڑ میں کارروائی 9 خارجی ہلاک

کامیاب آپریشن پر صدر مملکت، وزیر اعظم، وزیر داخلہ دیگر وزراء اور عسکری قیادت کا فورسز کو خارج تھین، عام اور سیکورٹی فورسز مل کر دہشتگردوں کے عزائم کو ناکام بنانے کے صدر مملکت، وزیر اعظم اور دیگر اعلیٰ عہدہ داروں کی قیادت میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے باجوڑ میں کامیاب آپریشن کیا ہے۔ ایف آئی ای کے سرگرمیوں کے دوران خارجیوں کے خلاف کارروائیوں میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے کامیابیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھا ہے۔ ایف آئی ای کے سرگرمیوں کے دوران خارجیوں کے خلاف کارروائیوں میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے کامیابیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھا ہے۔ ایف آئی ای کے سرگرمیوں کے دوران خارجیوں کے خلاف کارروائیوں میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے کامیابیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھا ہے۔

## ایس سی ادا جلاس پاکستان اور بھارت میں کوئی رسمی ملاقات نہیں ہوئی، دفتر خارجہ

وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے امریکی صدر کو خط لکھ کر ڈاکٹر قائمہ صدیقی کے لیے فیور ایبل گراؤنڈز کی درخواست کی ہے۔ دفتر خارجہ کے مطابق ایس سی ادا جلاس پاکستان اور بھارت میں کوئی رسمی ملاقات نہیں ہوئی ہے۔ ایف آئی ای کے سرگرمیوں کے دوران خارجیوں کے خلاف کارروائیوں میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے کامیابیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھا ہے۔ ایف آئی ای کے سرگرمیوں کے دوران خارجیوں کے خلاف کارروائیوں میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے کامیابیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھا ہے۔

## بشری بی بی کو اڈیالہ جیل سے رہا کر دیا گیا

پولیس کا عالمی ڈاکٹر اور سیکورٹی فورسز نے باجوڑ میں کامیاب آپریشن کیا ہے۔ ایف آئی ای کے سرگرمیوں کے دوران خارجیوں کے خلاف کارروائیوں میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے کامیابیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھا ہے۔ ایف آئی ای کے سرگرمیوں کے دوران خارجیوں کے خلاف کارروائیوں میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے کامیابیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھا ہے۔

## پاکستان آذربائیجان تعلقات میں بہتری کی ضرورت، حسن فتویٰ

وزیر داخلہ سے آذربائیجان کے وزیر مملکت و داخلہ علویف عصمت کی ملاقات ہوئی۔ اس موقع پر پاکستان اور آذربائیجان کے درمیان تعلقات میں بہتری کی ضرورت کی بات کی گئی۔

## آپریشن کامیابی کیلئے باہمی تعاون ناگزیر، آرمی چیف

جنرل سید عامر منیر کا پاک فضائیہ آپریشن میں کا دورہ، جدید ٹیکنالوجیز کے ذریعہ صلاحیتوں کو بہتر بنانے پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا۔

## کسانوں کو ہرمکن مدد و رہنمائی فراہم کرنا اولین ترجیح، مشرراولپنڈی

ایڈوائزری کمیٹی اجلاس کے منتہن کا جائزہ دیکر اگلے ایجنڈے پر بحث کی جائے گی۔ کسانوں کو ہرمکن مدد و رہنمائی فراہم کرنا اولین ترجیح، مشرراولپنڈی نے کہا ہے۔

## گورنر پنجاب اسمبلی کا اجلاس آج طلب کر لیا

لاہور (بیورو رپورٹ) گورنر پنجاب سردار نسیم جید نے پنجاب اسمبلی کا آج (جمعہ) 17 اگست 2024ء کو اجلاس طلب کر لیا ہے۔



اسلام آباد، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو میں اصلاحات سے متعلق اجلاس کی صدارت کر رہے ہیں

## پاکستان پولیو کے خاتمے میں عالمی برادری کے ساتھ کھڑا ہے، وزیر اعظم

متنوعہ شہیر اور فلسطین جیسے تنازعات اب بھی حل طلب ہیں، عالمی ادارے کی 79 ویں سالگرہ پر پیغام بھیجا۔ وزیر اعظم نے عالمی برادری کے ساتھ کھڑا ہونے کا اعلان کیا ہے۔

## امریکی ایوان نمائندگان کا صدر جو بائیڈن کو خط

واشنگٹن (انٹرنیٹ ڈیسک) امریکی ایوان نمائندگان نے 60 سے زائد امریکن نے امریکی صدر جو بائیڈن کو خط لکھا ہے۔

## قاضی فائز عیسیٰ کے بغیر 26 ویں آئینی ترمیم ممکن نہیں تھی، بلاول

مجھے پتا نہیں تھا فورسز اور چیف جسٹس نہیں ہوتے، ایک کی خواہش تھی عسکری تنصیبات اور جو سیکورٹی کاوشیں شامل کی جائے۔ بلاول بھٹو نے کہا ہے۔

## وزیراعلیٰ پنجتوخوا کا ایک بار پھر احتجاج کا اعلان

تاریخ کا اعلان جلد کروں گا، اس بار پورے ملک کو بند کریں گے۔ وزیراعلیٰ پنجتوخوا نے کہا ہے۔

## اسرائیل کی جنوبی بیروت پر بمباری 60 سے زائد شہری شہید

قوام متحدہ کے امدادی ادارے بھی مارے گئے درجنوں فلسطینیوں کی لاشیں مرنوں کے پھیلتے ہوئے ہیں۔ اسرائیل کی جنوبی بیروت پر بمباری سے 60 سے زائد شہری شہید ہوئے۔

## اسرائیل کی جنوبی بیروت پر بمباری 60 سے زائد شہری شہید

اس دوران بغیر جنگی ادارہ 60 عمارتیں تباہ ہو گئیں۔ اسرائیل کی جنوبی بیروت پر بمباری سے 60 سے زائد شہری شہید ہوئے۔

اسلام آباد، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف اور دیگر اعلیٰ عہدہ داروں کی قیادت میں سیکورٹی فورسز نے باجوڑ میں کامیاب آپریشن کیا ہے۔

## Rear Admiral Faisal Amin takes over as Commander Coast



KARACHI: Rear Admiral Faisal Amin took over the duties of Commander Coast during Change of Command ceremony held at Karachi, where Vice Admiral Raja Rab Nawaz handed over the command to the Rear Admiral.

Rear Admiral Faisal Amin got commissioned in Operations Branch of Pakistan Navy in 1992, a Pakistan Navy news release on Thursday said.

He is a graduate of Royal College of Defence Studies (UK), Army Command & Staff College (Quetta) and National Defence University (Islamabad). The Admiral has an illustrious naval career comprising vast experience of various Command and Staff appointments.

His key appointments include Commander 18th Destroyer Squadron, Assistant Chief Of Naval Staff (Operations), Principal Secretary to the Chief of the Naval Staff, Additional Secretary-III at Ministry of Defence, and Naval Secretary. In recognition of his meritorious services, the Admiral was awarded Hilal-i-Imtiaz (Military).

## Awais Leghari, Abbas Ali Abadi discuss cross-border energy cooperation



QINGDAO: Federal Minister for Power, Sardar Awais Leghari, met with the Iranian Energy Minister Abbas Ali Abadi on the sidelines of the Third Belt & Road Ministerial Conference held in

Qingdao, China. Minister Awais Leghari underscored the importance of cross-border energy projects in boosting connectivity and trade, said a press release issued here Thursday.

Both sides discussed future collaboration, particularly focusing on the development of electricity projects in Gwadar, Balochistan.

Exchanging views on the need for enhanced energy connectivity amongst the regional countries, both sides underlined the importance of strengthening energy cooperation in power plants operations and maintenance.

They emphasized the need for regular coordination and communication. Both the ministers also discussed that effective plant management was essential for sustaining energy output and meeting the growing demands of the region. INP

## US envoy lauds restoration of Karachi's historic Frere Hall at completion ceremony

ISLAMABAD: The United States (US) Ambassador to Pakistan, Donald Blome on Thursday praised the successful completion of the restoration of the historic Frere Hall, a project funded by the US Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP).

Addressing a ceremony held at Frere Hall, Karachi, Ambassador Blome expressed his admiration for the initiative, stating that the restoration symbolizes the shared values and collaborative spirit between the US and Pakistan.

He said, "On behalf of the US government and the American people, it is an honor to join you today as we celebrate the completion of this remarkable project. Thanks to the AFCP, Frere Hall will continue to serve as a space for Karachi's vibrant artistic community and as a testament to the city's rich cultural heritage." Ambassador Blome highlighted the cultural and educational significance of Frere Hall, noting that the restoration project reinforces its role as a center for civic engagement and learning in the heart of Karachi. APP

## Massive Jump in Pakistan's Trade with Russia: ECI

ISLAMABAD: One of the most notable features of Pakistan's external trade profile in the last fiscal year is a massive increase in trade with the Russian Federation, finds new research. Total volume of bilateral trade between Pakistan and Russia reached \$1.09bn in 2023-24, found the Eurasian Century Institute (ECI), an Islamabad-based think-tank dedicated to studying emerging dynamics of the Eurasian supercontinent. This is a 31% increase over the total volume \$829mn recorded during 2022-23.

Irfan Shahzad Takalvi, founding president of ECI, terms the trend as "promising, yet only starting to move towards the potential." He however cautions that "trade balance is heavily tilted in favor of Russia."

Pakistan's imports from Russia increase from \$740mn in 2022-23 to \$1011mn in 2023-24 – a 37% increase. Pakistan's exports to Russia in the same period actually declined from \$89mn to \$79mn, in the same period – a decline of around 11%. The think-tank however notes that increase in overall trade volume with the Russian Federation is positive for relationship between Islamabad and Moscow. DNA

## Climate Change ministry signs nitric acid mitigation pact to boost climate action

### VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination signed the crucial Nitric Acid Climate Action Group (NACAG) Statement of Understanding (SoU), committing to reduce nitrous oxide emissions in the country's nitric acid industry.

The signing ceremony was attended by First Secretary at the German Embassy, Janine Rohwer, and Coordinator for Energy, Climate Change and Just Transition at GIZ Pakistan, Wolfgang Hesse. The Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam confirmed present government's intention to implement policies to cut nitrous oxide emissions from nitric acid production in the long-term, a news release said. Following this decision by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Fatima Fertilizers Multan Plant has become eligible for financial support from the NACAG Secretariat to install catalysts for mitigating nitrous oxide emissions and measuring technology in its production facilities.



Addressing the SoU signing ceremony, PM's climate aide Romina Khurshid Alam said that with the SoU signing with the private sector, Pakistan has become the 11th country to formally sign the understanding of collaboration, alongside Argentina, Colombia, Georgia, Jordan, Mexico, Peru, Thailand, Tunisia, Uzbekistan, and Zimbabwe to reduce over four million tons of CO2 equivalent emissions annually in the country's nitric acid sector. "Today marks a significant step forward in Pakistan's efforts to combat climate change and advance sustainable development. The NACAG initiative plays a vital role in our climate action strategy, and we are grateful for the support from the German government and GIZ," Romina Khurshid Alam remarked.

The nitrous oxide emission reduction potential in the fertilizer sector in Pakistan has been estimated at around 1.86 million tons of Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2eq) per year. Nitrous oxide is an odorless, colorless, non-flammable gas. Its global warming potential is nearly 300 times that of carbon dioxide over a 100-year time scale. The coordinator to the Prime Minister reiterated Pakistan's commitment to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions by aligning national actions with international agreements like the Paris Agreement. In April 2020, Pakistan declared its commitment to helping ensure abatement of N2O from nitric acid production by signing the N2O Mitigation Declaration, she recalled, adding that nitric acid producers in Pakistan

became eligible for over 7 million euros grant for advanced abatement technology and monitoring equipment. Secretary at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Aisha Moriani highlighted the importance of the nitrous oxide emissions initiative, saying the NACAG initiative would be crucial in helping Pakistan meet its carbon mitigation targets by reducing nitrous oxide emissions from the nitric acid sector.

She said further that besides reducing nitrous oxide emissions, the initiative would bring other environmental and economic benefits ranging from cleaner air and better public health to the promotion of green technologies and the creation of jobs in the green sector. Parliamentary Secretary of the Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Ministry, Ahmed Atteeq Anwar said that signing of the SoU with the private sector for tackling global warming causing GHG emissions demonstrates the intention of the government to support the private companies to contribute their part to achieving national environmental sustainability and climate resilience goals of the country.



Washington DC: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb held a meeting with His Excellency Mohamed Bin Hadi Al Hussaini, Minister of State for Financial Affairs, UAE. (Story on page 1)

## Aleem, Jam inaugurate newly constructed bridge over Hub river



### VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan and Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Thursday inaugurated the newly constructed bridge over the Hub River.

The newly constructed bridge over the Hub River on National Highway N-25, reconnecting the provinces of Balochistan and Sindh. The project has been completed in two years at a cost of Rs 1.18 billion, aims to enhance connectivity and facilitate trade between the regions, said a press release issued here.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony, Abdul Aleem Khan emphasized the importance of

business activities for regional development. "We have to ensure maximum development of Balochistan, even by collecting revenue from other provinces," he stated.

Aleem Khan noted that while Balochistan boasts the largest network of the National Highway Authority (NHA) in the country, covering 4,500 km, the province generates relatively low toll revenue. The minister expressed concerns over the bridge's width, deeming it insufficient for current traffic demands, and announced plans for the construction of an additional parallel bridge.

He also approved the conversion of the N-25 highway from Karachi to Quetta into a two-way road to prevent accidents caused by traffic congestion.

"We will build new bridges and roads in Balochistan," Aleem Khan assured attendees, highlighting that a new bridge at Pinjara is also nearing completion.

He further revealed aspirations for developing a six-lane Karachi-Hyderabad motorway through a Public-Private Partnership model, alongside plans for a Northern Bypass as a major highway project.

Aleem Khan commended the National Logistics Cell (NLC) and the National Highway Authority (NHA) for their exemplary performance in the bridge's construction and expressed optimism that this development would significantly contribute to the economic growth of the Hub area and the province.

Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan echoed these sentiments, stating that the current government prioritized resolving issues of Balochistan.

He commended the timely completion of the Hub Bridge and extended his gratitude to Abdul Aleem Khan for his efforts.

During the visit to Karachi, Abdul Aleem Khan also met with Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah to discuss highway and communication sector issues in the province.

At a high-level meeting presided over by Aleem Khan emphasized that financial stability in national institutions should be the top priority, urging that the NHA would enhance its resources and achieve a revenue target of Rs 25 billion for the current fiscal year. He instructed NHA officials to expedite work on 43 ongoing projects in Sindh while ensuring high-quality standards.

## Peace not just aspiration but necessity for future of humanity: Gilani

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani on Thursday said that peace is not just an aspiration but a necessity for the future of humanity, calling on all nations to prioritize conflict prevention.

He expressed these views while addressing a ceremony in Islamabad in connection with UN Day, marking the 79th anniversary of the United Nations.

Reflecting on Pakistan's 77 years as a dedicated member of the UN, Gilani reaffirmed the country's commitment to the UN Charter's principles, including sovereignty, equality, and respect for human rights.

He said that Pakistan remains devoted to upholding these ideals as a cornerstone of its foreign policy.

The Chairman Senate praised the contributions of UN agencies in Pakistan, highlighting their vital role in sectors such as education, health, and humanitarian relief.

He acknowledged their timely interventions, particularly in collaborative efforts like flood relief, which have positively impacted Pakistan.

Gilani underscored Pakistan's significant involvement in UN peacekeeping missions, noting that Pakistani troops have served with distinction in numerous conflict zones, further cementing the country's role in promoting global peace.

During his address, the Senate Chairman also called for stronger global solidarity, especially during humanitarian crises, stressing that such moments demand a united response from the international community.

He commended the UN's efforts in alleviating suffering worldwide but suggested that institutions must continually evolve to meet emerging challenges.

Gilani expressed optimism about the future, hoping that the UN will continue to inspire, unite, and lead the global community toward a future where justice and peace prevail.

## Khwarij Ringleader Said Muhammad among nine others killed in Bajaur IBO: ISPR

RAWALPINDI: The Security Forces on Thursday killed nine Khwarij, including two Suicide Bombers and a High Value Target Khwarij ringleader Said Muhammad alias Qureshi Ustad during an intelligence-based operation IBO conducted in Bajaur District on the night of October 23/24.

During conduct of operation, the Army troops effectively engaged the Khwarij location and after intense fire exchange, nine Khwarij were eliminated, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. A large quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives was also recovered from killed Khwarij, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as innocent civilians.

"Sanitization operation is being carried out to eliminate any other Khwarji found in the area, as security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country," the ISPR said. PR



## Humanitarian situation caused by Israel's Gaza siege blot on human conscience: FO



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Thursday strongly condemning the attack by Israeli forces on UN peacekeepers in Lebanon, said that the humanitarian situation caused by Israel's siege of Gaza was a blot on human conscience. Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, at her weekly press briefing, unequivocally condemned the brutal and indiscriminate Israeli airstrikes on Beit Lahia, which resulted in the tragic loss of over 80 Palestinian lives, including women and children. She said that targeting the densely populated residential areas without warning and collective punishment of civilians by depriving them of food, water and essential medicines constitute war crimes. The spokesperson told the media that the UN

peacekeepers had become the latest victim of Israeli aggression in Lebanon

"Pakistan strongly condemns the deliberate and unlawful attacks by Israeli forces on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) peacekeepers. The Peacekeepers must be able to fulfill their mission without fear of attack or obstruction."

She called upon the international community to press Israel to cease all aggressive actions against UNIFIL immediately and forthwith cease its attacks against the people of Palestine and Lebanon. Israel should also be held accountable for its war crimes and crimes against humanity and the people of Palestine should be protected from the Israeli aggression, she added.

She highlighted that October 27, 2024, would be marked as 'Black Day' in Pakistan and around the world, on the occasion of the 77th anniversary of the Indian troops' landing in Srinagar.



RIYADH: Federal Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain meets with H.E Sami Ibrahim Al Hussaini, Governor, Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

## India has crossed all limits of state terror in IIOJK: AJK PM

MUZAFFARABAD: The Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Chaudhry Anwar Haq, has said that India has crossed all limits of state terrorism in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir to weaken the freedom spirit of the Kashmiris.

Chaudhry Anwar Haq expressed these views during meetings with Lord Mayor of Manchester Yasmin Dar and Lord Mayor of Stoke-on-Trent Majid Khan and others.

He said that sham elections were staged in the occupied territory, but these elections cannot in any case be a substitute for the referendum of Kashmiris.

The AJK Prime Minister said that the international community should play its role to give the Kashmiri people their birthright to self-

determination and urged the Kashmiris living in the UK to raise their voices at every forum in the world to stop the ongoing Indian brutality in occupied Kashmir and to resolve the Kashmir dispute.

He said the Kashmir dispute has now entered an important and critical phase and it is the responsibility of the Kashmiris living abroad, especially the Kashmiris living in the UK, to expose the ongoing Indian atrocities in occupied Jammu and Kashmir at every forum in the world. Senior Minister Waqar Ahmed Noor, government ministers Faisal Muntaz Rathore, Chaudhry Muhammad Rashid, Dewan Ali Khan Chaghtai, Chaudhry Muhammad Akbar Ibrahim and Government Advisor Colonel Muhammad Maruf were also present in the meeting. INP