

Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan sign bilateral accords to strengthen multi-sectoral ties

TIMES REPORT

BISHKEK: Pakistan and the Kyrgyz Republic on Wednesday signed multiple bilateral accords to enhance cooperation across trade, security, education, environment, and technology sectors.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and President of the Kyrgyz Republic Sadyr Zhaparov witnessed the ceremony where the representatives from both sides exchanged the pre-signed documents.

Both leaders signed a joint statement encompassing the discussions and goals of the visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif who arrived here on a three-day visit to attend the meeting of the Council of Heads of State of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

Two sides signed a diplomatic Programme of Cooperation between their



foreign ministries for 2026-2027, besides a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad and the National Institute for Strategic Initiatives of

the Kyrgyz Republic to strengthen research collaboration.

Both countries finalized agreements on transit trade to facilitate bilateral commercial movement, and promote science and technological cooperation, besides signing a treaty on extradition.

PM given guard of honour at Kyrgyz presidential palace

BISHKEK: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday was given red carpet welcome and a guard of honour as he arrived at Kyrgyzstan presidential palace Yntymak Ordo (Palace of Unity) to meet President Sadyr Zhaparov.

As the prime minister arrived at the venue of the formal welcome reception, he was warmly received by President Zhaparov. PM Shehbaz given guard of honour at Kyrgyz presidential palace. The national anthems of Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan were played as the two leaders stood at the salute dais.

Pakistan Navy's exercise Seaspark 2026 begins in Karachi

TIMES REPORT

KARACHI: Pakistan Navy has launched its major naval exercise, Seaspark 2026, in Karachi, with Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf as the chief guest at the opening briefing.

Addressing the briefing, Admiral Naveed Ashraf said the Pakistan Navy could not compromise on its operational preparedness amid an unstable and complex security environment in the region.

ern maritime threats.

Warships, submarines, aircraft, drones, Pakistan Marines and Special Operations Forces will participate in the exercise. The Pakistan Army and Pakistan Air Force will also demonstrate joint operational planning and combat capabilities as part of Seaspark 2026.

During the exer-

cise, Admiral Naveed Ashraf visited Pakistan Navy warships and reviewed ongoing operational activities.

He also met officers and personnel serving with fleet units.

The exercise reflects the Pakistan Navy's commitment to maintaining an operational edge across different dimensions of naval warfare.



On IWT, Pakistan retains all diplomatic, legal options; urges India's full compliance: FO spox

BY: APP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Wednesday welcomed the "clear and authoritative pronouncements" by the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in its ruling, affirming that it retained all diplomatic and legal options to protect its water rights under the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), and urging New Delhi to return to full compliance.

Addressing his weekly press briefing, Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi said that the court's unanimous award constituted an important reaffirmation of the sanctity of the Indus Waters Treaty and the rule of international law.

He said that PCA's

ruling vindicated Pakistan's consistent position that differences concerning the Indus waters must be addressed strictly within the framework of the Treaty and in accordance with international law.

He said that the proceedings at the Permanent Court of Arbitration were conducted strictly under the dispute settlement framework of the Indus Waters Treaty.

"India's rejection of the award by the Permanent Court of Arbitration raises concerns that extend well beyond the present dispute. India cannot treat

international law as a matter of convenience—invoking it when useful and discarding it when inconvenient," he said.

The spokesperson said that India could not disregard binding treaty obligations and the legal processes and that such an approach by India undermined the sanctity of treaties, eroded confidence in established international dispute settlement mechanisms, and created adverse precedents for other regions.

"India should, therefore, return to full compliance with the treaty, respect the institutional and dispute settlement mechanisms

of the treaty, and engage Pakistan constructively within the framework that both countries solemnly accepted."

He said that the statement by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs could not extinguish or alter India's obligations under the Indus Waters Treaty or its obligations to fulfil the award of the Court of Arbitration.

"Pakistan is committed to implementing it in earnest, in letter and in spirit, in accordance with the language and provisions of the treaty. We will continue to urge India to reciprocate with the same approach whereby the treaty is upheld in letter, in spirit, and in full legal and documented provisions."

Atta Tarar condoles with Arif Rawan over demise of his father

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar visited the office of Engineer of Muhammad Arif Rawan, Director to the Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan and Project Director Hosting Community, to offer his heartfelt condolences on the passing of his father. The minister expressed deep sympathy and solidarity with Engr. Mohammad Arif Rawan and the bereaved family.

FC Balochistan holds passing-out parade for Basic Military Training Batch 76

TIMES REPORT

QUETTA: A passing-out parade for Basic Military Training Batch 76 was held at the Frontier Corps (FC) Balochistan (South) Training Centre in Khuzdar, where 1,422 recruits successfully completed their training and passed out.

The passing-out ceremony was attended by local elders, civil and military officials, and a large number of students.

The Commandant Khuzdar was the chief guest at the ceremony.

ed the recruits who successfully complet-

ing their course. At the conclusion



ed their training.

The newly passed-out recruits also demonstrated the training and skills they had acquired dur-

of the ceremony, recruit Muhammad Tahir was awarded the IC FC Medal for his outstanding performance.

Risalpur Locomotive Factory to Meet Global Standards: Abbasi

TIMES REPORT

RISALPUR: Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi on Wednesday visited the Pakistan locomotive factory Risalpur and reviewed



its various sections, production activities, locomotive repair and rehabilitation work, and local manufacturing of spare parts.

During his detailed visit, the minister directed that the Risalpur Locomotive Factory be completely revamped according to

international standards and its 100 per cent production capacity be utilised.

He stressed the need to adopt modern technology, promote technology transfer

ry's capacity should be fully utilised to meet the requirements of Pakistan Railways.

He also decided to start manufacturing 400 hopper wagons from January 2027.

He directed the authorities to develop various products at the factory while keeping the requirements of the private sector in view.

The minister ordered that all trains should have fully functional braking systems by December 31, 2026, to further improve safety and operational efficiency.

During a briefing, the minister was informed that 300 spare parts had been manufactured locally at the Risalpur factory as import substitutes. The initiative had resulted in foreign exchange savings of Rs2.6 billion.

KP Govt approves provision of free electric scooters to female students, working women

CM Afridi says initiative to play key role in advancing women's empowerment, mobility

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Sohail Afridi has accorded in-principle approval for the provision of free electric scooters to female students and working women, directing the relevant authorities to take immediate steps for the launch of the initiative. Presiding over a meeting on the provision of free electric scooters to female students and working women, the Chief Minister directed that a Steering Committee, Technical Working Group and Grievance Redressal Committee be notified immediately to ensure effective implementation of the

initiative. He also directed that adequate and com-



plete funding be ensured for the project.

The Chief Minister said the initiative would play an important role in advancing women's empowerment, mobility and self-reliance. Providing electric scooters to female students and working women would help ensure safe, affordable and dignified access to education

and employment opportunities, he added.



Addressing the meeting, Chief Minister Sohail Afridi said the environmentally sustainable electric scooter initiative would contribute to reducing air pollution while promoting women's economic empowerment and participation in the workforce.

He further said that the Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa government, in line with the vision of Chairman

Peshawar would be provided free electric scooters by the provincial government. Eligible beneficiaries would be selected through a computerised balloting process to ensure transparency and fairness in the allocation of scooters.

The meeting was further informed that, in the next phase, the initiative would be expanded to other districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Special Assistant to the Chief Minister for Transport Samiullah, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Amir Sultan Tareen, Secretary Transport Muhammad Zubair and senior officials of the Transport Department attended the meeting.

Tahir Andrabi bids farewell as FO spox; Sajjad Haider Khan assumes charge

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Marking his final appearance as Foreign Office spokesperson before assuming his new assignment as Pakistan's Permanent



Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Tahir Andrabi on Wednesday formally handed over charge to Ambassador Sajjad Haider Khan.

At his final weekly press briefing, Andrabi expressed deep gratitude for the support received

during his tenure and reflected on the strong professional relationships and long-lasting friendships built with the diplomatic press corps.

Outlining his upcoming responsibilities, Andrabi noted that in Geneva he will represent Pakistan across major multilateral organisations, including the UN Human Rights Council, UNHCR, OCHA, WHO, ILO, WIPO, UNCTAD, WMO, and the World Economic Forum.

Highlighting an immediate priority, he pointed out that Pakistan currently holds the presidency of the UN Conference on Disarmament (CD),

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Information, Science and Information Technology Shafi Jan visited the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Technology Board, where he inspected the FinTech Unit and other sections and reviewed various ongoing projects.

Managing Director KPITB Dr. Akif Khan briefed the provincial minister in detail on digital governance, cashless government payments, digital skills training for youth, employment opportunities in the IT sector, digital public services and other ongoing initiatives.

Minister Shafi Jan

congratulated KPITB on securing two international awards as well as several national-level recognitions, and said that the promotion of information technology



would play a pivotal role in the economic development of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

He said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Sohail Afridi, the province had been given a Digital Vision

2030. All available resources would be utilized to transform Khyber Pakhtunkhwa into a hub of technology and the digital economy, he added.

He said 48 government services had been digitized, while another 400 government services were planned to be digitized by December 2026.

Dastak app was also being launched, which would provide access to 146 government services through a single platform.

Shafi Jan directed

accountability in government transactions.

The briefing revealed that PAYMIR had enabled digital payments for 319 government services across 34 departments, making Khyber Pakhtunkhwa the leading province in the country in the digitization of government payments. Shafi Jan said that, in line with the vision of Founding Chairman Imran Khan, equipping the youth with modern digital skills was among the government's key priorities. Under the employment-oriented skills development programme, a target of training 27,500 young people has been set, while 16,300 youth have already received digital skills training.

Promotion of IT imperative for Economic growth: Shafi Jan



The minister was informed that the Dastak app was enabling citizens to access a range of government services from home, including driving and arms licences. A new version of the

that the cashless government payment system be further strengthened and expanded, emphasizing that modern digital payment solutions would enhance transparency, efficiency and

CityNews

HMC holds sixth open court to address various departmental issues

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: The sixth E-Kuli Kachehri was held at Hayatabad Medical Complex to promote public engagement, transparency and accountability, attended by Hospital Director Dr. Gulzar Ahmad Khan and Medical Director Dr. Khalid Khan. During the session, satisfactory answers were given to questions received from citizens, staff, and various social media channels.



Questions were raised during the open forum regarding clinical practice regulations, hostel residential allotment, staff scale upgradation, eligibility criteria for technical posts, and the shortage and promotion of pharmacist staff. The hospital administration reviewed each question in detail and responded in light of the relevant rules and regulations, assuring that matters would be reviewed and appropriate action taken wherever necessary.

In conclusion, the administration reiterated that complaints, feedback and suggestions from citizens and staff are heard on a priority basis and forwarded to the concerned departments for action, so that direct engagement between the public and the institution is made more effective, transparency and accountability are promoted, and the quality of health services continues to improve. It was stated that E-Kuli Kachehri will continue to be held regularly in the future to provide citizens and staff with an effective platform to present their issues and suggestions.

Rescue 1122 responded to 362 Emergencies in August

ANWAR ZADA GULYAR

BAJAUR: Rescue 1122 Bajarur responded to 362 emergencies of different kinds across the district during August 2026, providing medical assistance to 349 injured and sick people and shifting them to various hospitals where necessary.

District Emergency Officer Amjad Khan has released the monthly performance report of Rescue 1122 Bajarur for August 2026.



According to the report, the Rescue 1122 control room received a total of 25,064 calls during August. These included 362 emergency calls and 3,223 information calls, while 21,479 calls were found to be unnecessary or fake.

The emergencies included 280 medical cases, 38 road traffic accidents, 16 gunshot incidents, four fire incidents, two drowning cases and one blast/explosion, along with 21 other recovery-related emergencies.

According to Rescue 1122 Bajarur Media Coordinator Riaz Khan, the service also continued its patient referral service during the month. A total of 104 patients were referred for better medical treatment. Of these, 34 patients were shifted from various tehsil hospitals in Bajarur to the District Headquarters Hospital Khar, while 71 critically ill or seriously injured patients were shifted from Bajarur to major teaching hospitals in Peshawar for further treatment. Riaz Khan said that Rescue 1122 teams provided timely emergency response and professional medical assistance to patients and injured people across the district.

Public development projects completed in Kohat

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOHAT: Two public development projects have been completed in Kohat district using the funds allocated by Information, Science and Information Technology Minister Shafi Jan and National Assembly Member Shehryar Afridi. The projects include the asphalted of Garhi Mawaz Khan Road and construction of a funeral facility in Akhunzada Gaan, Jangal Khel, aimed at improving basic services for local communities. The newly asphalted road will provide residents with safer and smoother travel while improving traffic flow in the area.

The funeral facility, meanwhile, addresses a longstanding need of residents by providing a dedicated and dignified space for funeral prayers and other related religious activities. Local residents welcomed the completion of the projects, saying improvements in roads and essential community facilities could help ease everyday difficulties and meet longstanding public needs. Jan and Afridi have pledged to continue development work focused on improving public facilities and addressing infrastructure needs in the area.

PGMMEA delegation visit to boost Pak-SL Gem and Jewellery Trade

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: A high-level delegation of the Pakistan Gems and Mineral Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PGMMEA) is on an official visit to Sri Lanka at the invitation of the Sri Lankan High Commissioner, with the aim of strengthening bilateral trade relations, promoting cooperation and exploring new business opportunities in the gems and jewellery sector.

The delegation is being led by Ayaz Khan Toru, Group Leader of the Pakistan-Sri Lanka Delegation, while Shahidullah Khan, Chief Coordinator of PGMMEA, is assisting with coordination and administrative affairs. Other members of the delegation include Umar Iqbal, Assistant; Ahmed Noor, Member; Abdul Samad, Member; and Muhammad Azam (Noor Stone), Member.



Hamza Foundation Reports 20 Years of Blood Services

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: The Hamza Foundation Welfare Thalassemia Centre and Blood Transfusion Services Peshawar has completed 20 years of providing blood transfusion and other healthcare services to thalassemia, hemophilia and other blood disorder patients.

According to a progress report issued by the foundation, 198,469 bags of blood were collected from July 2006 to August 31, 2026. During this period, 109,313 blood bags were provided to thalassemia patients and 48,718 to hemophilia patients.

Hamza Foundation founder Ejaz Ali Khan said that 84,626 blood bags had also been supplied to public and pri-

vate hospitals, bringing the total number of blood components issued by the foundation to 242,657 bags.



He said screening of donated blood detected 3,374 cases of Hepatitis B, 1,175 of Hepatitis C, 171 of HIV/AIDS, 677 of VDRL and 65 cases of

malaria.

The foundation has registered 1,585 patients, including 1,368 thalassemia

gramme for pregnant women from thalassemia-affected families, 464 cases were screened. Of these, 132 were diagnosed with thalassemia major, 210 with thalassemia minor, while 122 were found normal.

Ejaz Ali Khan said the foundation continues to provide services through modern, state-of-the-art machinery and equipment.

He stressed the need to make pre-marital thalassemia screening mandatory to help prevent the spread of the disease. He also called for awareness campaigns in schools, educational institutions and other public places, saying the government and relevant stakeholders must support poor and deserving patients.

National Song "Jazba-e-Watan" for Defence Day unveiled

STAFF REPORTER

PESHAWAR : The Pakistan Culture Tourism and Arts Organization (PCTO) has produced a special national song, "Jazba-e-Watan," to mark Pakistan's Defence Day and highlight the spirit of patriotism, national unity and devotion to the country.

The song, written by renowned poet Dr Shahida Shaheen Sardar, is scheduled to be officially released on social media platforms on September 6. Considerable attention has been given to its lyrics, music, recording and video production to present the message of Defence Day in an impactful and engaging manner.

According to PCTO, "Jazba-e-Watan" is a humble tribute to the martyrs and veterans who rendered sacrifices for the defence of the country. The song also seeks to reinforce the message of national solidarity and love for Pakistan, particularly among the younger generation.

Protest sit-In resumes over abduction of trader, Pak-Afghan Highway blocked

AHMAD NABI

KHYBER: A protest sit-in has once again launched on the Pak-Afghan Highway at the Landi Kotal bypass, Torkham road, against the alleged abduction for ransom of prominent Landi Kotal trader Haji Muhammad Zareef Shinwari, also known as Lunday Haji. The protesters blocked the highway by putting chairs on it for all kinds of traffic, demanding the safe and immediate recovery of the abducted trader.

Participants including relatives and well-wishers of the kidnapped said that the protest would continue until Muhammad Zareef Shinwari was safely recovered. The alleged abduction of the trader completed a month, but he had yet to be recovered, causing serious concern among his family members and local traders, his relatives and local business community members said.

Defence Day of Pakistan ceremony held at Smart School

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: At the conclusion of the memorable Defence Day Ceremony at The Smart School Gulbazar Campus, Peshawar Major Kamran, representing the Pakistan Army, together with the School's Managing Director, Inam Mateen, distributed prizes among the students in recognition of their excellent performances and enthusiastic participation in the programme.

The awards were presented to students who showcased their talents

through patriotic Major Kamran and



tableaus, speeches, Naat recitations, and recitation of the Holy Quran, making the Defence Day celebration truly meaningful and memorable.

The smart school, sincerely thank

Legal action demanded against in armed attackers on Barial village

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Residents of Barial village in Sheringal tehsil of Upper Dir district have demanded immediate legal action against those allegedly involved in an armed attack on the village, setting houses on fire and establishing armed positions in the area.

Addressing a press conference at the Peshawar Press Club here on Wednesday, village Nazim Shahid Khan son of Yousaf Khan, accompanied by Loya Jirga elders Anwar Zaib Khan, Muhammad Amin, Ataur Rehman, Azizur Rehman, Ghulamullah and Mukhtiar Khan, said that around 14 months ago, more than 100 armed men allegedly belonging to the nearby Hayagai Sharqi village attacked Barial with heavy weapons.



Five teachers suspended over student cleaning work at Hayatabad School

SHAHZAD RASHEED

PESHAWAR: District Education Officer (DEO) Peshawar, Irfan Ali, has taken immediate notice of an incident in which students of a Government Primary School in Hayatabad were allegedly assigned cleaning duties.

During a surprise visit to the school, the DEO observed the situation and ordered the immediate suspension of five teachers allegedly involved in the incident.

An inquiry committee has also been constituted to investigate the matter thoroughly and determine responsibility. The committee has been directed to submit its inquiry report within seven days.

Speaking on the occasion, District Education Officer Peshawar Irfan Ali stated that students are strictly prohibited from being engaged in cleaning activities or any form of manual labour in schools. He emphasized that the department is committed to ensuring a safe, respectful and conducive educational environment for all students.

Aftab Alam orders for olive expansion in Darra Adam Khel

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOHAT: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Aftab Alam has ordered an expansion of olive grafting across the Tribal Sub Division of Darra Adam Khel, aiming to promote agriculture, create employment and boost economic opportunities for the local communities.

Alam inspected the grafting work on wild olive trees in the Bosti Khel area during a visit accompanied by the District Forest Officer. Officials briefed the Minister on progress and explained how wild olive trees were being converted into productive, fruit-bearing trees through grafting.

The Minister directed the officials to extend the initiative to other parts of Darra Adam Khel where wild olive trees are found. He said olive cultivation could help improve the area's natural environment while providing new sources of income and employment for residents.



Man seeks early recovery of brother, allegedly missing

AKHUNZADA FAZLE HAQ

MARDAN: Muhammad Zubair, a resident of Farm Korona on Swabi Road, has appealed to the authorities to trace his brother Rahimullah, whom he claimed had been untraceable for more than 24 hours. Speaking at a press conference at the Mardan Press Club on Wednesday, Mr Zubair alleged that unidentified persons took his brother away from Kacheri Chowk a day earlier. He said the family had searched for him at different police stations and also approached the DIG and DPO Mardan, but could not ascertain his whereabouts.

He also claimed that his family was facing pressure to vacate a house on Swabi Road, which he said had been purchased by his father from the father of Senator Faisal Saleem about 45 years ago. He said a related ownership dispute was pending before a court. Senator Faisal Saleem, when contacted, rejected the allegations as baseless. He said the property dispute was pending before the court and that, as a law-abiding citizen, he would abide by its decision. Regarding the alleged disappearance of Rahimullah, he denied any involvement or knowledge of the incident, and termed the allegation an attempt to pressure him and his family.

KMU's 36th Academic Council Meeting held

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: The 36th meeting of the Academic Council of Khyber Medical University (KMU), Peshawar, was held at the KMU Alexander Fleming Hall under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Rubina Nazli. Registrar KMU Inamullah Khan Wazir, Director Academics Professor Dr. Zille Huma, Members of academic council along with Deans, principals, HoDs, and student representatives, attended the meeting.

The Academic Council approved several important decisions aimed at strengthening academic quality, research supervision,

faculty development, examination systems and quality assurance at KMU.

The Council placed

discussed the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into teaching, learning and research, including its



particular emphasis on improving research supervision, strengthening postgraduate research, enhancing faculty capacity in research methodology and scientific writing, and ensuring timely and quality completion of research projects.

The meeting also

use in literature reviews, data analysis, academic research and curriculum development.

The Council emphasized responsible and ethical use of AI while maintaining academic integrity, originality, critical thinking and human oversight.

RTI can strengthen women's voice for Transparency

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Access to information can play a vital role in empowering women to demand transparency, fairness and accountability from public institutions, while also helping them secure their rightful share in government programmes and public resources.

This was stated by Syed Saadat Jehan, Deputy Director of Communication, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Commission (KPIC), while addressing a capacity-building workshop on the Right to Information (RTI) and women's empowerment.

The workshop, titled "Strengthening

Women's Voices: Rights, Accountability, and Participation in Decision-Making," was jointly organized

participated in the

workshop. Speaking on the significance of the RTI law, Syed Saadat Jehan said women



by Transparency International-Pakistan and Safar Welfare Organization at Government Girls Degree College, Jamrud, district Khyber.

Students, faculty members, representatives of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Commission on the Status of Women and members of civil society organizations

could use their right to information to obtain authentic and timely information about government schemes, development programmes and public services. Such access, he added, could enable them to determine whether public resources were being distributed fairly and whether women were receiving equal opportunities.

Experts call for urgent, measurable action to address malnutrition, child-stunting crisis

Two D.I. Khan Flyovers to Improve Traffic Flow: DC Hikmatullah

MUHAMMAD REHAN

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Deputy Commissioner Dera Ismail Khan Hikmatullah said construction work on two flyovers is progressing rapidly to improve the city's traffic system. The Tank Adda Flyover is expected to be completed before December 2026, while the Sabzi Mandi Flyover is scheduled for completion by 2027.

Talking to media representatives at his office, the deputy commissioner said drainage channels and main drains in the city had largely been cleaned in view of the weather forecast, while work on some drains was still underway. The Public Health Department was also continuing efforts to improve the sewerage system.

He said the Dera Zone website would be launched within one to two weeks on the directions of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government to promote local businesses and introduce online



shopping facilities. Hikmatullah said electricity theft was a national crime and the district administration had formed teams at tehsil level to assist in the recovery of outstanding PESCO dues. The teams have started operations in different areas.

He added that, in collaboration with the District Youth Office, the administration would provide training to youth aged 15 to 25 in seven digital skills, including graphic designing, artificial intelligence and freelancing, under the NextGen and Smart Skills Youth Hub project. Registration for the programme has already been completed.

The deputy commissioner further said a representative jirga was recently held for resolving public issues in Kulachi, with officers from all relevant line departments in attendance. The jirga focused on resolving citizens' problems, maintaining peace and curbing terrorism. Government representatives assured residents that the issues highlighted during the jirga would be addressed promptly.

Hafiz Anees Urges Following Prophet's Seerah

TIMES REPORT

LAHORE: Director General Auqaf Punjab Hafiz Anees-ur-Rehman said Muslims should follow the Seerah of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and fill their lives with his teachings, love and compassion. A cake-cutting ceremony was held at the DG Auqaf office to mark Eid Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ, attended by senior



journalists and social leaders. Later, a delegation of Leaders Media Network and the Central Committee for Eid Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ visited the shrine of Data Ganj Bakhsh (RA) and offered prayers for peace and prosperity in Pakistan and the Muslim world.

Leaders Media Network Chairman Syed Ali Bukhari and other representatives said the life and character of the Holy Prophet ﷺ provide guidance based on love, tolerance, justice and respect for humanity.

The participants also prayed for peace, security and prosperity in Pakistan and the Muslim world.

Seminar Highlights Seerah, Finality of Prophethood

MUHAMMAD REHAN

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: A seminar on the life of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and the observance of the September 7, 1974 constitutional development was held at Markaz Khanqah Sirajia Naqshbandia, Central Jamia Mosque and Madrassa Tajweed-ul-Quran, Commissioner Bazaar.

Religious scholars highlighted the teachings and character of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and stressed the importance of following his example in daily life. Speakers also discussed the Islamic belief in the finality of prophethood and its place among the fundamental beliefs of Muslims.

They recalled that on September 7, 1974, Pakistan's Parliament declared the Ahmadiyya and Lahore groups non-Muslim minorities following parliamentary proceedings.

The speakers opposed any proposed amendment or repeal of Section 295-C of the Pakistan



Penal Code and called for action, in accordance with law, against any activities that may threaten public order.

They also urged the President to sign the bill concerning protection of the honour of the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt, saying it had already been approved by Parliament and the Senate. The seminar was attended by religious scholars, journalists and social figures, who pledged to continue efforts to promote the Seerah of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and religious awareness in society.

Gilani Stresses Media Role in Promoting Pakistan's Positive Image

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani has emphasised the important role of responsible and professional media in projecting a balanced, positive and constructive image of Pakistan and effectively highlighting the country's national interests before the world.

He expressed these views during a meeting with Pakistan Observer Chairman and Editor-in-Chief Faisal Zahid Malik, who called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

During the meeting, matters relating to parliamentary diplomacy and the role of the media in promoting Pakistan's positive image were also discussed.

Faisal Zahid Malik thanked the Acting President for acknowledging the role of



Pakistan Observer and said the newspaper would continue to play its role in projecting

Pakistan's national interests and positive image around the world. Deputy Editor-in-Chief of



Pakistan Observer Saud Faisal Malik was also present on the occasion.

Major Conference on Makkah Joint Defense Agreement to be held Today in Lahore

TIMES REPORT

LAHORE: Policymakers, diplomats, military experts, academics and political leaders from Pakistan and abroad will gather in Lahore today (Thursday) for a high-profile conference on the "Makkah Joint Defense Agreement", aimed at examining the strategic, security and economic implications of the landmark trilateral pact between Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye.

The day-long event, titled "The Makkah Pact and the New Geometry of Power: Pakistan-Saudi Arabia-Türkiye Shaping an Emerging Regional Order," will be hosted at the "University of Lahore" and feature two major roundtable discussions focused on the evolving regional security landscape and the broader geopolitical dividends of the agreement.

The proceedings will begin with welcome remarks by "Awais Ali Khan, Board of Governors, University of Lahore" followed by an inaugural address from "Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof. Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhry", who will attend as chief guest.

Former Foreign Minister "Mian Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri" will deliver the keynote address, outlining the strategic significance of the Makkah Joint Defense Agreement and its implications for regional stability.

The first roundtable, moderated by senior journalist "Ajmal Jami", will focus on "The Makkah Joint Defense Agreement: Middle Powers and the Making of a New Regional Security Architecture." The session will feature short interventions and an interactive dialogue among prominent par-

ticipants, including "Lt Gen Sikandar Afzal, Sohail Warraich, Turkish scholar Serdar Demirel, Allama Tahir Ashrafi, Sehar Kamran, Ahmad Bilal Mehboob, Maj Gen Zahid Mahmood, Ambassador Mansoor Ahmad



Khan, Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif, Ambassador Haroon Shaukat, Brig Nadir Ali Meer, Mehmoed Maulvi, Dr Khalid Ranjha, and Prof Dr M. Iqbal Choudhary."

Veteran journalist and editor "Mujeeb ur Rehman Shami" will deliver the closing remarks for the first session, while "Munir Ahmad Khan" will present the vote of thanks.

Following a luncheon, the conference will resume with a second roundtable titled "The Makkah Joint Defense Agreement: Geo-Strategic and Economic Dividends."

The session will feature keynote addresses by former Foreign Minister "Ambassador Jalil Abbas Gilani" and "Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik".

Participants in the second roundtable include "Lt Gen Gulam Mustafa, Senator Ali Zafar, Prof Dr Halil Tokar of Istanbul University, former Foreign Secretary Ambassador

Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, defence analyst Nasim Zehra, Fawad Chaudhry, Ambassador Zameer Akram, Brig Imran Malik, Ambassador Raza Bashir Tarar, Air Commodore Khalid Chishti, Brigadier (Retd.) Ghazanfar Ali,



Pir Muhammad Masood Chishti, Farrukh Shahbaz Warraich, Haroon Rasheed, and religious scholar Dr Abdul Chafoor Raashid."

The conference will conclude with remarks by former National Security Adviser "Lt Gen (Retd.) Naseer Janjua", followed by a concluding address from "Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Ahmad Khan", who will attend as chief guest of the closing session.

Organizers say the conference aims to foster a broad national and international dialogue on the strategic consequences of the Makkah Joint Defense Agreement, which has emerged as one of the most significant security initiatives in the Muslim world. Discussions are expected to explore how the Pakistan-Saudi Arabia-Türkiye partnership could reshape regional power dynamics, strengthen collective security, expand economic cooperation and contribute to the emergence of a new regional order in an increasingly multipolar world.

German Parliamentarian visits BISP to witness German-Supported Mobile Registration Vehicles at work

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: A high-level delegation led by Christoph Schmid, Member of the German Parliament and a member of its Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development, visited



the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Headquarters to gain first-hand insights into Germany's development cooperation with Pakistan and its practical impact in the social protection sector.

The delegation consisted of Dr. Manuel Winklenbach, Deputy Head of Development Cooperation, German Embassy Islamabad; Maria-Jose Poddey, Country Director, GIZ

Pakistan; Tilman Nagel, Head of Unit, GIZ; and Johanna Knoess, Project Head, Adaptive Social Protection, GIZ Pakistan. Additional Secretary BISP Dr. Asmat Nawaz welcomed the delegation and highlighted the importance of Germany-Pakistan develop-



ment cooperation in strengthening social protection initiatives. Director General NSER/CTT BISP Dr. Asim Ijaz briefed the delegation on BISP's key social protection initiatives, including Benazir Kafalat, Benazir Nashonuma, Benazir Taleemi Wazafi, Nutrition for Adolescent Girls, Benazir Hunarmand Programme, Mobile Registration Vehicles (MRVs) and Digital Wallets.

During the visit, the delegation observed the practical application of Germany's development cooperation through Mobile Registration Vehicles (MRVs), which take the National Socio-Economic Registry (NSER) registration process beyond fixed registration centres and closer to communities in remote and underserved areas.

Through digital registration and household surveys, the MRVs collect essential household information that helps identify families eligible for social protection programmes. Through German Development Cooperation, 32 MRVs have been provided to BISP, reaching and registering more than 1.37 million people since their deployment across hard-to-reach areas of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh.

The mobile outreach mechanism is particularly important for vulnerable groups, including women, persons with disabilities and households facing difficulties in travelling to registration centres.

The MRVs also strengthen the responsiveness of the social protection system during crises. When floods or other climate-related shocks disrupt access to communities, mobile registration teams can help reach and register eligible households more quickly, enabling them to reconnect with the social protection system.

C-14 infrastructure complete, plot possession process begins

BY: APP

ISLAMABAD: The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has completed basic infrastructure development in Sector C-14, while work on electricity supply has entered its final stage, according to a briefing given to CDA Chairman and Islamabad Chief Commissioner during his visit to the sector on Wednesday.

The CDA Chairman Sohail Ashraf reviewed the progress of development works and was informed that possession of developed plots had formally begun to be handed over to allottees. The process of providing possession to the remaining allottees was also under way. Officials said installation of light poles along the sector's main roads and signboards on roads and streets had been completed. Landscaping and horticulture work along the main roads was in progress.

The CDA chairman directed officials to complete all remaining development-related works on a priority basis and remove hurdles affecting the sector's development. He also ordered that the process concerning the remaining plots be expedited to facilitate allottees and avoid unnecessary delays. He said timely development of new residential sectors was important alongside mega projects to meet Islamabad's growing housing requirements. He directed officials to ensure that possession of plots was handed over to allottees at the earliest. Later, the chairman visited the Sangiani Interchange and inspected ongoing construction and development works. He reviewed progress at different parts of the project and received a briefing on the pace of construction and its completion targets.

WWF Gives Rs1m Each to Families of Balochistan Mine Accident Victims

TIMES REPORT

SWABI/SWAT: On the special directives of Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Chaudhry Salik Hussain, Workers Welfare Fund (WWF) Secretary Zulfiqar Ahmed visited the families of two workers who were killed in a mining accident at the Sourange Coal Mine in Balochistan. The deceased workers belonged to Jhandu Islam Pura in Swabi and Tal Dardiyaal in Tehsil Kabal, Swat. During the visit, the secretary offered Faizah and expressed condolences and sympathy with the bereaved families. He conveyed the federal minister's message



of condolence and solidarity and presented cheques of Rs1 million each to the families of the deceased on behalf of the Workers Welfare Fund. Earlier, as part of its initiative to provide immediate financial assistance to families affected by mining accidents in Balochistan, the WWF had provided Rs1 million each to 32 affected families from Shangla and Alpuiri. Zulfiqar Ahmed said the Workers Welfare Fund stood firmly with workers and their families during difficult times. He said no amount of compensation could replace a human life, but the government and WWF would continue to provide all possible assistance to affected families.

US Consul General Goodman Discusses Critical Minerals Opportunities

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: US Consul General Goodman hosted a roundtable with industry leaders to discuss Pakistan's growing critical minerals and rare earth elements sector.

The meeting explored opportunities for greater US participation and partnership in Pakistan's critical minerals industry, with discussions focusing on investment, cooperation and the development of resilient mineral supply chains.

Participants highlighted the potential of



Pakistan's mineral resources to support economic growth and create new avenues for bilateral commercial cooperation. The discussions also underscored the importance of secure and reliable supply chains for critical minerals and rare earth elements. The roundtable reflected growing interest in strengthening US-Pakistan economic cooperation in the minerals sector and supporting shared opportunities for sustainable growth.

Defence Day Highlights Sacrifice, Unity; Sain Muhammad Ijaz Malik

TIMES REPORT

RAWALPINDI: President All Rawalpindi Restaurants Association and District Peace Committee Member Sain Muhammad Ijaz Malik said Defence Day reminds the nation of the sacrifices, courage and determination of Pakistan's Armed Forces and people. He said the 1965 war remains a symbol of bravery, while the sacrifices of martyrs and veterans will always be remembered. He stressed that national unity, peace, stability and development are also vital for Pakistan's defence. Malik urged the nation to remain united, disciplined and committed to Pakistan's security and prosperity.



درخواستیں مطلوب ہیں

ایک سرکاری ادارے کو مختلف اقسام کی گاڑیوں کے لئے تجربہ کار اور موزوں امیدواروں سے درج ذیل آسامیوں پر درخواستیں مطلوب ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	آسامی کا نام	آسامیوں کی تعداد
1-	لائسنس ڈرائیورز (LTV Drivers)	4
2-	پری ڈرائیورز (HTV Drivers)	4

شرائط و ضوابط

- 1- امیدوار کے پاس مختلف کام کا درست اور کارآمد ڈرائیورنگ لائسنس ہونا ضروری ہے۔
- 2- امیدوار جسمانی طور پر صحت مند اور جلد میں کوئی زخم یا زخموں سے متاثر ہونے کے قابل ہو۔
- 3- عمر کی حد 50 سال سے زیادہ نہیں ہوگی۔
- 4- امیدوار اپنی درخواست کے ساتھ شناختی کارڈ، ڈیوٹی ایگل، تعلیمی اسناد، درست ڈرائیورنگ لائسنس، تجربہ پر مبنی ٹیلی فونک انٹرویو کا ریکارڈ اور تصاویر کی تصدیق شدہ کاپیوں کے ساتھ پیش کرنا ضروری ہے۔
- 5- صرف شہر میں بسڈیو اور بسڈیو کو شہر کے اندر لے جانے کے لئے لایا جائے گا۔
- 6- شہر کے اندر لے جانے کے لئے ڈرائیورنگ لائسنس اور ڈرائیورنگ لائسنس کی تصدیق شدہ کاپیوں کے ساتھ پیش کرنا ضروری ہے۔
- 7- جملہ یا مقررہ تاریخ کے بعد وصول ہونے والی درخواستوں پر فوری طور پر جواب دیا جائے گا۔
- 8- ادارے کا سامیوں کی تعداد میں اضافہ کی کہ اگر کسی بھی مرحلے پر بعض کی تعداد میں اضافہ کرنے کا حق حاصل ہوگا۔
- 9- درخواست ایک سالہ مدت کے بعد پچھلے کے لئے پھر پارل کی جائے گی۔
- 10- امیدوار شہر میں کارڈ کی تاریخ سے 15 دن پہلے کے اندر نامزد کر کے ایڈریس پر درخواست ارسال کریں۔

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Editorial & Opinion

The Voice of the Time

DAILY TIMES

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The Silent Struggle: Why Our Children Are Lonelier Than Ever

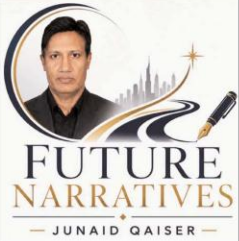
LYBA LARAIB

Walk into any café, park, or living room today, and you will see a familiar scene. A child sits in a corner, their face illuminated by the blue glow of a tablet. Their thumbs move with lightning speed, swiping through a digital world of endless content. On the surface, they are connected. They have hundreds of "friends" online. They know the latest viral dances. They have the world at their fingertips. But look closer. Look into their eyes. What do you see? I see a generation that is hyper-connected yet deeply isolated. I see children who can navigate a smartphone before they can tie their shoelaces, but who struggle to navigate a simple conversation with the person sitting next to them. Today's childhood is a paradox. It is a time of unprecedented safety and opportunity, yet it is also a time of immense pressure and anxiety. We have given our children the world, but we have accidentally taken away their playground. The Disappearance of "Boring" Remember when childhood was filled with "boring" afternoons? The ones where you had to invent your own games, climb a tree, or just lie on the grass and watch the clouds shape-shift into dragons? That boredom was the catalyst for creativity. It was the soil in which imagination grew. That soil is now parched. Every spare moment is scheduled, optimized, or filled with screen time. There is no room for quiet reflection, no space for a child to simply be. The constant stimulation from video games and social media is rewiring their brains, shortening their attention spans and making the real world seem pale, slow, and uninteresting in comparison.

The Performance Pressure. The modern child is not just a student; they are a project. They are expected to excel academically, master three sports, learn an instrument, and maintain a pristine online persona, all before the age of twelve. Parents, fueled by a competitive culture and a fear of their children "falling behind," have turned childhood into a race. When did we start treating our children like CEOs of their own lives? We have loaded them with expectations that would break an adult. This constant pressure doesn't produce well-rounded individuals; it produces anxious, burnt-out children who are terrified of failure. The Empathy Deficit. Perhaps the most worrying trend is the erosion of empathy. In a digital world where interactions are transactional and often anonymous, children are losing the ability to read non-verbal cues, to feel the weight of another person's sadness, and to offer comfort. They are more likely to send a text message than to have a heart-to-heart talk. Conflict is resolved with a block button rather than a difficult, but necessary, conversation. We are raising a generation that cannot broadcast their feelings to the world but cannot share them with the person right in front of them. A Call to Action. So, what do we do? We cannot and should not ban technology. It is the world they have inherited. But we can, and we must, create balance.

We must reclaim the dinner table. Turn off the TV and the phones. Talk. And, more importantly, listen. Ask your child not just about their grades, but about their fears, their joys, and their dreams. Validate their feelings. Let them know they are loved for who they are, not just for what they achieve. We must reintroduce the beauty of unstructured play. Let them get dirty. Let them lose a game. Let them be bored. Watch them discover the magic of building a fort out of bedsheets or the thrill of catching fireflies in a jar. We must equip them not just with the tools to navigate a digital world, but the resilience, compassion, and joy to navigate a human one. Our children are not broken. They are just growing up in a world that has forgotten the simple magic of being a kid. They are waiting for us to remember. They are waiting for us to put down our own phones, look them in the eye, and truly see them. It is not too late to rewrite the script of childhood. It starts with a single, profound step. Connecting, not just online, but in real life. - Lyba Laraiab is a voice for the next generation.

The Case for Diplomacy in a Dangerous Moment



Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's meeting with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian in Bishkek comes at a pivotal moment for the Middle East. Fresh military exchanges between the United States and Iran have once again exposed the fragility of regional stability, just as diplomatic efforts appeared to be gaining traction. The danger is not merely that tensions could escalate further; it is that months of painstaking diplomacy could be undermined at a time when the region can least afford another prolonged confrontation.

Against this backdrop, the prime minister's call for restraint and renewed diplomatic engagement deserves careful attention. It reflects not only Pakistan's position on the current crisis but also a broader evolution in Islamabad's foreign policy—one that increasingly seeks to position Pakistan as a force for regional stability rather than a bystander to regional turmoil. The latest exchange

of attacks serves as a reminder that the underlying disputes remain unresolved. Yet it also reinforces an important lesson: diplomacy, however frustrating and imperfect, remains the only viable path forward. This is where Pakistan's role becomes particularly significant. Over the course of the conflict, Islamabad has emerged as one of the few capitals able to maintain meaningful engagement with all major stakeholders. Pakistan enjoys close relations with Gulf states, maintains an important relationship with the US, and shares deep historical, cultural and strategic ties with Iran. Few countries possess this combination of access and credibility. That diplomatic space has enabled Pakistan to play a role that many larger powers have struggled to perform. When direct communication became difficult, Islamabad helped keep channels open. When tensions threatened to spiral further, Pakistan encouraged dialogue. Most recently, Pakistan played a central role in facilitating the Islamabad MOU in June, an agreement that temporarily halted hostilities and created a framework for further negotiations.

The significance of that achievement should not be overlooked. In a region where diplomatic failures often dominate headlines, the Islamabad MOU demonstrated that dialogue remained possible even amid intense conflict. While the agreement did not produce a final settlement, it succeeded in creating breathing space for diplomacy. In international affairs, such opportunities are often the difference between escalation and de-escalation.

PM Shehbaz's remarks in Bishkek indicate that Pakistan remains committed to preserving that diplomatic momentum. His emphasis on building upon the understandings reached under the Islamabad framework reflects an understanding that peace processes are rarely linear. They advance through setbacks, interruptions and periods of uncertainty. The challenge is not avoiding difficulties but ensuring that diplomatic engagement survives them.

The recent visit of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir to Tehran reinforces the same message. His meetings with Iran's political and security leadership underscored Pakistan's continued investment in regional peace efforts. Together, the diplomatic outreach by both the civilian and military leadership highlights an increasingly coordinated Pakistani approach toward regional conflict management. This coordination is important because the stakes are exceptionally high. The Strait of Hormuz remains one of the world's most strategic waterways. Any prolonged disruption threatens global energy supplies and economic stability. At the same time, expanding sanctions, retaliatory measures and growing mistrust risk creating conditions in which miscalculation becomes more likely.

For Pakistan, these developments have direct implications for national interests. Economic growth, energy security, trade connectivity and regional integration all depend upon a stable Gulf region. Islamabad therefore has both a strategic interest and a diplomatic responsibility to support

efforts aimed at reducing tensions. What is increasingly evident is that Pakistan's role extends beyond protecting its own interests. The country is gradually establishing itself as a credible regional mediator. As Pakistan prepares to assume the chairmanship of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, its diplomatic profile is likely to receive greater international attention. The ability to facilitate dialogue among competing actors enhances Pakistan's strategic relevance and strengthens its standing as a responsible regional stakeholder.

History suggests that durable peace is rarely achieved through pressure alone. Successful agreements emerge when dialogue remains open, trust is gradually rebuilt and political leaders recognize that compromise serves their interests better than perpetual confrontation. That is why the message from Bishkek matters. PM Shehbaz's emphasis on diplomacy reflects a recognition that the region stands at a crossroads. One path leads toward renewed escalation, deeper instability and greater economic uncertainty.

The other, while difficult and uncertain, offers the possibility of dialogue, de-escalation and eventual reconciliation. Pakistan has chosen the second path. In doing so, it is not merely advocating peace; it is helping create the conditions under which peace might become possible. At a time when the Middle East urgently needs bridge-builders rather than additional fuel for the flames, that may prove to be one of Pakistan's most important contributions to regional stability.

Beyond the 'Technocrat' Label: Iftikhar Gillani, AJK's New Got & the Politics of His Selection



Azad Jammu and Kashmir's political landscape has gained renewed attention following the unprecedented recent elections, formation of a new government, and selection of Barrister Syed Iftikhar Ali Gillani as Prime Minister. His selection has sparked controversy because he was elected on a technocrat/reserved seat rather than a general seat, but such criticism is considered constitutionally unfounded because AJK law allows any member of the Legislative Assembly to become Prime Minister and does not distinguish between members elected on general or reserved seats for technocrats and other professionals.

All assembly members have equal legislative and constitutional status, and membership of the Assembly is the primary qualification for becoming Prime Minister; therefore, the focus should be on Gillani's vision, ability, and commitment to improve the category of his seat. His defeat from a general seat in the latest election does not erase his political experience: he was first elected in 2011, retained his seat in 2016, and served as a minister. His election to the Assembly through the technocrat seat gave him a legitimate mandate from those who voted for him, while the subsequent selection of Prime Minister is a separate constitutional process in which the Assembly chooses its leader through majority confidence. Thus, claims that his selection

violates "respect for the vote" overlook the distinction between an individual member's electoral mandate and the Assembly's collective authority to choose its Prime Minister.

His elevation reflects the confidence placed in him by the party leadership and Assembly majority and carries broader strategic, constitutional, and political significance for AJK's future governance and development.

The new government's smooth formation and development-focused approach have generated optimism, particularly because Gillani represents younger and more energetic leadership backed by the PML-N central government and the guidance of Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz. Her close connection to Kashmir and her declaration of herself as a "daughter of Kashmir," along with her announced comprehensive development package for AJK, have raised expectations that successful Punjab welfare and governance initiatives could be extended to the territory.

These include the Kisan Card, Rashan Card, Suthra Punjab campaign, housing schemes, scholarships, laptops and tablets, and modern transport such as electric buses for Muzaffarabad and Mirpur. Gillani's commitments to transparency, youth employment, economic digitalization, and improvements in education and healthcare align with this wider development agenda, creating hopes for greater resources, expertise, prosperity, and improved quality of life.

The recent elections themselves were widely considered among AJK's fairest and most transparent, with professional and impartial multi-

phase polling, no participation by hate elements, peaceful and issue-based campaigning, and no political party, group, or independent candidate being prevented from contesting.

This inclusive process strengthened democratic confidence and gave the successful parties a credible mandate. The new cabinet also combines youthful, energetic members with experience, emphasizing new faces, merit, competence, fresh perspectives, and results-oriented governance. Its effectiveness in collectively implementing the ambitious development agenda will be crucial, while the combination of youth and experience is seen as a strong formula for addressing AJK's challenges, advancing reforms, and sustaining progress.

Consequently, the people of AJK are hopeful that this government, under the remarkable leadership of its Prime Minister Iftikhar Gillani, will open new doors of development and prosperity for the territory. The public has shown a significant degree of optimism, largely driven by the promises of the PML-N and the perceived capability of the new leadership to deliver on these promises. The extensive development agenda, which includes improvements in infrastructure, healthcare, education, and the economy, has resonated deeply with the public.

The emphasis on merit-based recruitment and anti-corruption measures has also helped to build trust in the new administration. People are tired of the old ways of governance and are looking for a fresh start that can bring tangible improvements to their lives and secure a better future for their children.

The focus on youth employment through interest-free loans and other

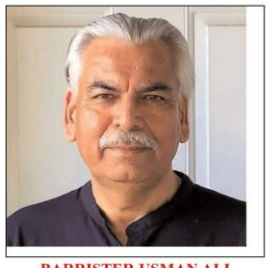
schemes has also generated a great deal of hope among the younger generation, who see the new government as a vehicle for their empowerment. The fact that the government has started working immediately and has taken initial steps to address public grievances has further reinforced this sense of optimism.

It is clear that the people have welcomed the new government and have rejected all propaganda against a genuine political process. Despite the efforts of certain political factions and critics to undermine the credibility of the elections and the subsequent government formation, the public has shown its support for the democratic transition. The massive public turnout at the election rallies of the PML-N were a clear indication of the people's endorsement of the party's vision and its leadership. The people have demonstrated through their vote and their subsequent acceptance of the results that they are tired of baseless allegations and propaganda campaigns.

They are more interested in seeing their political leaders work for their welfare and address the real issues affecting their lives, such as inflation, electricity prices, and the need for development.

The public discourse has been dominated by a desire for progress and good governance, and the people have largely ignored the negative campaigns launched by those who seek to delegitimize the political process. The new government has been given a clear mandate by the people, and it now carries the heavy responsibility of delivering on their expectations and fulfilling the promises that were made to them.

Pakistan Does Not Need Another "Wonder Boy"



BARRISTER USMAN ALI

When Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi recently declared that Pakistan's existing system had failed and could no longer solve the country's problems, his remarks predictably ignited a national debate. Some welcomed the statement as a rare acknowledgment of reality. For several days, television studios echoed with heated arguments, political statements and competing interpretations. Then, as so often happens in Pakistan, the controversy began to fade. Yet whether a minister acknowledges it or not, the reality remains difficult to deny: Pakistan's political, administrative and social order is severely paralysed.

Even that description, however, requires qualification. The system has not failed everyone. For those with

money, influence and connections, it remains remarkably responsive. Laws are activated, doors are opened, stalled files begin to move and decisions arrive with surprising speed. The system reveals its paralysis only when confronted by a citizen without political patronage, financial power or access to the right telephone number. The real question, therefore, is not whether the system works. It is: whom does it work for? The roots of this dysfunction are clearly visible in Pakistan's political culture. Most political parties speak endlessly of democracy but remain unwilling to practise it within their own ranks. Internal elections are frequently ceremonial exercises. Leadership revolves around families, personalities and tightly controlled groups. Party heads often remain in place indefinitely, while disagreement is treated not as an opportunity for correction but as an act of rebellion. Parties that cannot tolerate democracy internally cannot be expected to establish it nationally. The pursuit of power has also become detached from public trust, measurable performance and coherent policy. Instead of earning authority through service and persuasion, political actors have repeatedly sought the approval of powerful quarters and relied on backroom arrangements. Their energy is consumed by attempts to destabilise governments, prosecute opponents and remove rivals from the political arena.

The party in office describes the arrangement as democracy; once removed from power, it denounces the same arrangement as authoritarianism, manipulation and injustice. Governments change and political narratives are rewritten, but the underlying behaviour remains intact. The justice system reflects the same inequality. Cases remain unresolved for years, sometimes decades. For an ordinary citizen, securing justice has become expensive, exhausting and needlessly complicated. Court dates accumulate, but judgments do not arrive. A poor person accused of a minor offence may spend years behind

bars, while a powerful defendant can draw elite legal representation, influence and every procedural opening the system provides. Justice that is neither timely nor equally accessible eventually ceases to be justice. It survives only as a constitutional promise, solemnly repeated but selectively fulfilled. Education and healthcare expose another face of this unequal order. Pakistan's education system does not bridge class divisions; it reproduces them. At one end are expensive private institutions offering access to opportunity. At the other are public schools deprived of trained teachers, adequate resources and even basic facilities. Too many children remain outside school, while countless others receive an education that does little to prepare them for dignified employment in a modern economy. Public hospitals, meanwhile, struggle with overcrowding, medicine shortages, inadequate staffing and deteriorating facilities. Quality private treatment is increasingly beyond even the middle class. A single serious illness can consume a family's lifetime savings. It is difficult to speak credibly of a welfare state when education and medical care are treated not as rights, but as privileges to be purchased. The police, bureaucracy and local administration are symptomatic of the same disease. From the police station to the land-record office, citizens often need a recommendation, a bribe or repeated visits merely to obtain something to which they are legally entitled. Local governments are denied continuity, authority and dependable financial resources, even though many problems that directly shape daily life, water, sanitation, transport and neighbourhood development, can be addressed most effectively at the local level.

Power remains concentrated in federal and provincial capitals because decentralising responsibility would also mean decentralising money, influence and control. The economy follows a similarly unequal logic. Salaried workers and ordinary consumers carry a disproportional

burden through direct and indirect taxation, while powerful sectors benefit from exemptions, weak enforcement and political influence. Every government announces reform, but reform usually translates into higher utility bills, more expensive fuel and additional taxes for the public. When attention turns to elite privileges, extravagant official spending or the cost of an oversized administrative structure, the appetite for reform suddenly disappears. Sacrifice is demanded from the many; protection is reserved for the few. Alongside this political and administrative decline lies an equally alarming intellectual and social deterioration. The spectacle created in the name of religion deserves a serious discussion of its own. On religious occasions, some individuals and groups promote bizarre practices, unsupported rituals and inflammatory rhetoric that bear little resemblance to the moral foundations of faith.

Religion, which should cultivate knowledge, justice, compassion, restraint and human dignity, is too often converted into theatre, commerce, political leverage and a weapon of group identity. Those who ask questions, demand evidence or challenge unreliable claims risk being branded hostile to religion, while invented traditions and reckless assertions are accepted without scrutiny. Social media has made this trend more dangerous by rewarding those who exploit religious sensitivities to generate outrage and deepen division. Sponsoring ignorance in the name of faith is not a service to religion; it is an assault on its moral and intellectual spirit. None of these problems will be solved merely by creating new provinces, reshuffling ministries or waiting for another messiah, another self-proclaimed "wonder boy." Pakistan has already been subjected to experiments conducted under grand labels: "Islamic rule," "enlightened moderation," revolutionary change, and the promise that "change is not coming; change has already arrived." Each time, the public was offered a new slogan, a

new personality and a fresh set of assurances that the distribution of power, the method of decision-making and the structure of governance remained largely untouched. The slogans changed. The rulers changed. The so-called wonder boys came and went. The condition of the ordinary citizen remained the same.

Nations are not built by wonder boys, saviours or supposedly indispensable personalities. They advance through strong, impartial and accountable institutions. A sound system is not one that requires an extraordinary individual every few years to rescue it from collapse. It is one that continues to function under an ordinary but competent and honest officer-holder because laws, procedures and institutional limits are stronger than personalities. An order built around individuals begins to crumble as soon as those individuals depart. An order founded on constitutionalism, institutional responsibility and public accountability survives changes of government and leadership. Meaningful reform therefore requires constitutional supremacy, credible elections, democracy within political parties, an independent and efficient justice system, empowered local governments, a professional civil service, politically neutral policing and sustained investment in education and healthcare. Accountability must apply equally to the government and the opposition, to the powerful and the powerless. No individual, party or institution can be placed above the law while the country continues to speak of reform. Above all, the ordinary citizen must be recognised not as a spectator but as the central stakeholder in any discussion about the system's future. Success is not measured by the number of seminars conducted, projects inaugurated or impressive speeches delivered. It is measured by how quickly a citizen receives justice, what kind of education a child can access, whether treatment is available during illness, and whether a person entering a government office is treated as a citizen with rights or a subject seeking favour.

Rs34bn water projects target irrigation, water needs in Balochistan



BUSINESS

PAEI Delegation Briefs PMYP Chairman on Made in Pakistan Exhibition

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of the Pakistan Association of Exhibition Industry (PAEI), led by Founder Chairman M. Khurshid Barlas, held a productive meeting with Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan, Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP), Prime Minister's Office, Government of Pakistan.

The delegation included Iram Shahzad, elected Senior Vice Chairman PAEI, and Kashif Wahid, Vice Chairman PAEI.

During the meet-

ing, the delegation Ahmed Khan in detail Pakistan Exhibition, in Dhaka,



briefed Rana Mashood about the 4th Made in scheduled to be held Bangladesh.

Discussions focused on promoting Pakistani products, strengthening business-to-business linkages, and enhancing Pakistan's trade and export presence in international markets. Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan appreciated PAEI's efforts to promote Pakistani businesses and products abroad and expressed support for initiatives aimed at expanding economic and trade opportunities for Pakistani entrepreneurs.

LIVESTOCK & DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF POULTRY FEED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026-27

The Procurement Cell, Directorate General Extension Livestock and Dairy Development (L&DD) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Bacha Khan Chowk, Peshawar invites bids for the procurement of Poultry Feed through E-Pak Acquisition and Disposal System (EPADS) (<https://kp.eprocure.gov.pk/>), under Single Stage Two Envelopes procedure, from manufacturer(s) for Poultry Feed in Pakistan.

Under this procedure, the bidders shall submit the bidding documents (Technical and Financial) in two separate sections online through EPADS, on or before 12:00 PM, 29th September, 2026 which will be opened on the same day at 2:00 PM in the Committee Room of the Directorate General Extension Livestock and Dairy Development Bacha Khan Chowk, Peshawar in the presence of bidders or their representatives (who choose to attend the bids opening process). The Bid Solicitation Documents may be downloaded from the www.kppra.gov.pk website, www.ftc.kp.gov.pk and EPADS.

A Pre bid meeting (In person/Zoom) is scheduled to be held on Monday, 17th September 2026 (11:00 AM), at the Committee room of Directorate General Extension Livestock and Dairy Development Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Bacha Khan Chowk Peshawar. The bidders shall thoroughly study the Bid Solicitation Documents (BSDs) before the pre-bid meeting and bring their query(ies)/suggestion(s) to the forum for clarification/understanding and the same shall be submitted in written on or before the pre-bid. In case of non-submission of hard copy on or before the meeting day, the query(ies) / suggestion(s) shall not be considered/entertained.

Mandatory Bid Security amounting to a flat rate of Rupees One Million (Rs.1,000,000/-) from each bidder in the shape of Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) in the name of the Director General Extension Livestock and Dairy Development, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is required to be submitted in original and shall be from the account of the Manufacturer(s) for Poultry Feed in Pakistan. Ordinary, crossed or open Cheques, pay order shall not be acceptable as Bid's security.

The bidders are required to submit the unit prices of quoted items on the format as prescribed for financial bid in the Bid Solicitation Documents.

The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject any or all the bids under Rule 47 (1) of KPPRA Rules, 2014.

INFP 4507/2026

HEAD OF THE PROCURMENT CELL
DIRECTORATE GENERAL EXTENSION L&DD

KP denied Rs106.2bln in NHP asgovt provides addl: resources to Punjab: Muzzammil Aslam

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Advisor to the KP Chief Minister on Finance Muzzammil Aslam, has said that following the Punjab government's continued violation of Article 151 of the Constitution, the federal government has also been continuously violating Article 161(2) of the Constitution for the past three years, resulting in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa being denied full payment of its constitutional right, namely the Net Hydel Profit (NHP).

Muzzammil Aslam said that the continued violation of Article 151 of the Constitution by the Punjab govern-

ment caused hurdles in the inter-provincial transportation of wheat, resulting in a significant increase in wheat prices not only in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa but across the country.

According to a report issued by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, wheat prices in the country increased by up to 85 percent during the current year.

He said that, on the other hand, the federal government has also been continuously violating Article 161(2) of the Constitution for the past three years, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is not being paid its

full constitutional right in the form of Net Hydel Profit.

The Finance Advisor said that under Article 161(2) of the



Constitution of Pakistan, the right to the net profits derived from a hydroelectric power station situated in a province belongs to that province. Under

this constitutional principle, the province bearing the environmental, social and economic impacts of hydropower generation must be paid its Net Hydel Profit.

Muzzammil Aslam said that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is Pakistan's largest hydropower-producing province and contributes more than 70 percent of the country's total hydropower generation to the national grid, while Punjab's share in hydropower generation is approximately 30 percent, with a significant portion coming from the Chazibarotha Hydropower Project and other pro-

jects. In this context, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has a significant constitutional right to Net Hydel Profit on the basis of hydropower generated within the province.

He said that during the last three years, from 2024 to 2026, Punjab was paid Rs177.7 billion under the head of Net Hydel Profit, whereas Khyber Pakhtunkhwa received only Rs71.5 billion. Thus, Punjab was paid Rs106.2 billion more than Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, despite the fact that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's share in hydropower generation is considerably higher than that of Punjab.

OPEN AUCTION OF HOTEL PLOTS

Islamabad The Next Horizon in Hospitality



23rd & 24th SEPTEMBER 2026



At Gandhara Citizen Club, F-9 Park, Islamabad



10:00 am

LIST OF HOTEL PLOTS

S.No.	Plot No.	Sector
1	22	D-12 Markaz
2	Convention Center Hotel Plot No. 6	F-5/1
3	Convention Center Hotel Plot No. 6-A	F-5/1
4	Five Star Hotel Plot No. 8	F-5/1
5	Five Star Hotel Plot No. 8-A	F-5/1
6	Shopping Mall (Deluxe Hotel)	F-7/G-8
7	Hotel	E-11 Northern Strip
8	1	Murree Road
9	8	Murree Road
10	29	Murree Road
11	30	Murree Road
12	31	Murree Road
13	32	Murree Road
14	33	Murree Road
15	Hotel	Srinagar Highway (between Sports Complex and Margalla Hotel)



Independent approach road shall be made available for all hotels and all necessary facilitation will be provided by CDA

Prime Benefits & Flexible Terms



1-year Flexible Payment Plan

Easy and convenient payment schedule.



Possession at 75% Payment

Possession granted upon payment of 75% of total amount. Subject to provision of a valid Bank Guarantee from local schedule bank. (corresponding to the remaining amount)



Plan Approval at 25% Deposit

Building plan approval after payment of 25% deposit.



05% Rebate on total payment within 30 Days.



05% additional rebate on full payment in USD.

* CDA is committed to provide facilitation regarding electric lines shifting, sewerage upgradation, land clearance & other similar services.

SPECIAL FACILITY FOR OVERSEAS INVESTORS

CDA is facilitating overseas investors by offering token issuance at least one day before the auction date.

Payment can be made through Roshan Digital Accounts (ROA) or local banking channels.



Prime & Prestigious Locations
Strategic locations in the heart of Islamabad.



High Footfall & Strong Demand
Rising demand for luxury hospitality.



Hub of Business, Diplomacy & Tourism
A global hub for conferences, events and tourism.



Ideal for Luxury Hospitality Ventures
Perfect opportunity for hotels, motels, restaurants & mixed-use hospitality projects.



GET THE OFFICIAL BROCHURE & INQUIRE TODAY



Brochures can be obtained from One Window Directorate, CDA, Designated Branches of MCB, HBL, UBL, Askari Bank & Bank of Punjab (BoP), from September 8, 2026 or can be downloaded from CDA website: (www.cda.gov.pk)



Capital Development Authority

Directorate of Estate Management-II
Ph: +92-51-925 2481 | +92-333-5409880

SPORTS



Returning Asalanka named vice-captain for Sri Lanka's white-ball England tour

Naqvi advises think tank to focus on youngsters after England Tests debacle

BY:WEB DESK

LONDON: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday expressed disappointment over the underwhelming performances of the experienced national cricketers during the ongoing away Test series against England and advised the think tank to foster youngsters going forward.

The Green Shirts, who entered the England series with a 1-1 draw away against West Indies, were blown away by the hosts in the opening fixture as they succumbed to an innings and 103-run defeat in Babar's absence.

In the subsequent fixture at Lord's, where they had not lost a single Test since 2010 and were on a two-match winning streak, Pakistan suc-

cumbed to an equally humbling defeat as the hosts prevailed by a massive 194 runs to clinch an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

The back-to-back crushing

overhaul, releasing seven players, alongside head coach Sarfaraz Ahmed and bowling coach Umar Gul ahead of the third Test in Birmingham, slated to get underway next

ating on taking further stringent decisions in the coming days, having been extremely disappointed with the performances of the senior and experienced players in the national team.

Consequently, Naqvi was keen on promoting the youngsters who can take the reins of the Pakistan men's cricket team in the future and thus has directed the adoption of a policy aimed at providing U19 and junior cricketers with maximum opportunities and full confidence in the future.

Furthermore, the PCB chairman has issued clear instructions to the selection committee to ensure transparency in selection matters and not give tested and experienced players another opportunity after they have failed.



defeats drew severe criticism from cricket pundits, and the PCB eventually enforced an

Wednesday. Meanwhile, according to the sources, PCB Chairman Naqvi was deliber-

Babar crashes out of Top 10 as Abbas, Saud make big strides in ICC Test rankings

BY:WEB DESK

DUBAI: Pakistan captain Babar Azam on Wednesday crashed out of the Top 10 of the ICC Men's Test Batting Rankings after his below-par performance in the second fixture of the ongoing away series against England at Lord's.

Babar, who missed the England Test series opener in Leeds due to an injury, returned for the Lord's Test but managed single-digit scores of eight and six in the two innings, respectively. His inability to score big in the fixture resulted in him slipping down five places and crashing out of the Top 10 of the batting rankings. The 31-year-old, as a result, now holds the 15th spot in the rankings, which continued to be led by England's Harry Brook, while the latter's compatriot Joe Root was replaced by Australian counterpart Steve Smith at the second position.

Besides Babar, three Pakistan players, Mohammad Rizwan, Salman Ali Agha and Shan Masood, also slipped in the Test batting rankings. Amongst the senior trio, the wicketkeeper batter suffered the worst downfall as he descended seven places and is now ranked 33rd. Agha and Masood, on the other hand, both slipped down three spots to 21st and 43rd positions, respectively. The solitary positive for Pakistan in the batting rankings was Saud Shakeel's massive stride as the left-handed middle-order batter jumped 15 places to 18th position on the back of his gutsy 97-run knock during the second innings of the Lord's Test, which the Green Shirts lost by 194 runs. Meanwhile, experienced right-arm seamer Mohammad Abbas, who has been the standout performer for the Green Shirts on the England tour, was also rewarded for his consistent performances.

Imam-ul-Haq risks two-year ban over injury controversy

BY:WEB DESK

LONDON: Pakistan batter Imam-ul-Haq could potentially



face a ban of up to two years over controversy surrounding his injury during the second Test against England at Lord's, sources said on Wednesday.

A high-level investigation committee is being established by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) regarding Imam, according to

sources.

Imam, who was allegedly involved in a fake injury incident in the past, could potentially face a ban of one to two years in the future, sources said.

Meanwhile, sources said that the board also had serious concerns over wicketkeeper batter Mohammad Rizwan's discipline and could take strict action against him in the future.

Rizwan is likely to be questioned over the matter in the coming days, sources said, adding that the wicketkeeper batter is unlikely to be included in any Pakistan team in the near future. Imam and Rizwan were among the players released by the PCB as part of sweeping changes to the Test squad ahead of the third and final Test against England. Imam suffered a low-grade calf strain while fielding on the opening day of the Lord's Test. As a result, he did not bat in Pakistan's first innings the following day, with the visitors bowled out for a meagre 110 in response to England's 290.

Pakistan to play three-match series against South Korea ahead of Asian Games

BY:WEB DESK

LAHORE: The Pakistan men's hockey team will play an away three-match series against South Korea in a lead-up to the Asian Games 2026, scheduled to be held in Aichi Prefecture and Nagoya City from September 19 to October 4. The Green Shirts, who finished 11th in the recently concluded FIH Hockey World Cup in Netherlands and Belgium after a sensational victory over South Africa in the classification match, are set to turn their attention towards the men's hockey competition of the upcoming Asian Games in Japan. As a result, the national team will travel to South Korea on September 5 and will play a three-match series against the host nation, following which they will reach Aichi Prefecture and Nagoya City on September 15.

According to the sources, the Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF), for both the upcoming assignments, has decided to retain the same squad and management, which registered the country's best

finish at the mega event in 20 years. It is pertinent to mention that Pakistan, placed in Pool B of the

while their remaining two matches of the preliminary stage are against Malaysia and Oman on September



Asian Games men's hockey competition, comprising 12 teams, will kick off their campaign on September 20 by taking on Thailand before facing Uzbekistan on September 22. The Green Shirts' third group-stage fixture is scheduled to be played on September 24,

26 and 28, respectively. As per the competition format, the top two teams from each pool after the conclusion of the league stage will advance into the semi-finals, both of which are scheduled to be played on October 1, followed by the Gold medal match on October 3.

India replace Sri Lanka as hosts for inaugural Women's Champions Trophy

BY:WEB DESK

MUMBAI: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Wednesday granted the hosting rights of its inaugural Women's



Champions Trophy to India, with the six-team tournament set to be played in T20 format next year from February 14 to 28.

According to the cricket governing body, all the matches of the inaugural edition of the tournament, featuring Australia,

England, New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka and hosts India, will be played at the Cricket Club of India in Mumbai and the Vadodara International Cricket Stadium in Vadodara.

assessed three candidates to host the tournament: Bangladesh, India and South Africa against their established host evaluation criteria before recommending India as the replacement host, a decision ratified by the ICC Board on September 1.

"The ICC Women's Champions Trophy 2027 marks an exciting new chapter for women's cricket," ICC Chairman Jay Shah said. "The ICC Women's Champions Trophy 2027 marks an exciting new chapter for women's cricket. As the inaugural edition of the tournament, it will bring together the best teams in the world in an intense, high-quality competition, while creating even greater incentive for teams to continue rising through the rankings and competing for a place on the global stage."

"With a marquee ICC women's event now taking place every year, we have a significant opportunity to build greater momentum, provide more consistency and create a stronger rhythm for the women's game, its players and its fans around the world." Pakistan will not be part of the Champions Trophy as it will be played in the T20 format with the six teams to compete in a round-robin league, with the top two sides advancing to the final on February 28. India are the current holders of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup, while Australia are the ICC Women's T20 World Cup champions after having reclaimed the title this July in England.

The event was originally scheduled to take place in Sri Lanka, but has now been moved to India as Sri Lanka Cricket continues to make the requisite reforms outlined at the ICC's Annual Conference in July.

The ICC, according to the press release,

Aline Pereira set for Contender Series bout with Smilla Sundell

LAS VEGAS: Aline Pereira is set to fight for a UFC contract when she

Pereira currently has a 3-2 MMA record, with all three of her victories



takes on undefeated prospect Smilla Sundell on Dana White's Contender Series in Las Vegas on 13th October. The bout will give Pereira, sister of two-weight UFC champion Alex Pereira, an opportunity to earn a place in the promotion.

The 35-year-old Brazilian confirmed on Instagram that she will face Sweden's Sundell in a bantamweight contest. White's Contender Series provides fighters outside the UFC with the chance to secure contracts through one-off fights.

coming by decision. Her most recent win came in May, when she defeated Jade Masson-Wong by split decision at the first MMA event promoted by Jake Paul's Most Valuable Promotions. Like her brother, Pereira previously enjoyed a successful kickboxing career.

She challenged for a super-bantamweight title under Glory before switching to MMA in 2022. After a difficult 1-2 start with Legacy Fighting Alliance, Pereira stepped away from MMA in 2023.

World Athletics Level One Coaching Course Begins in Peshawar

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR : The World Athletics Coaches Education and Certification Level One Coaching Course has formally commenced in Peshawar. More than 30 male and female coaches from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and other provinces of the country are participating in the 13-day course.

The course is being organised through the joint collaboration of the Pakistan Athletics Federation, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Athletics Association and the Directorate General of Sports Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Director General Sports Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ashfaq Khan was the chief guest at the opening ceremony. Secretary General Pakistan Athletics Federation Lt.Col Shahjehan Mir, Provincial Athletics Association Secretary Eng Saif-ul-Islam, Director Operations Jamshed Baloch, Assistant Director Shah Faizal, Chief Coach Shafiqullah, Director Jafar Shah, Administrator Abid Nazim, Zafra Afridi and Yousaf Afridi, among other officials and dignitaries were also present.

Addressing the ceremony, DC Sports Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Ashfaq Khan said that there was no shortage of sporting talent in the province and that the only need was to provide young athletes with modern training and proper guidance. He said sports

economy and in promoting the country's identity at the international level.

He said athletes possess tremendous potential, but the role of coaches is crucial in

who polish diamonds," he said, adding that their responsibility was to identify the hidden talent in the province, develop it and prepare athletes for national and international competitions.

continue to extend its full support in organising modern training courses and sports activities aimed at enhancing the capacity of coaches in the future.

On the occasion, Provincial

from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were second to none and were performing exceptionally well at the national level. He said the abilities of athletes in the province could be further devel-



not only help highlight the abilities of athletes but also play an important role in the national

directing them towards the right path. "Coaches and trainers are like skilled craftsmen

Ashfaq Khan assured that the Directorate General of Sports Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would

Athletics Association Secretary Eng Saif-ul-Islam welcomed the guests and said that athletes

oped through modern coaching and scientifically based training.

UN report warns only immediate action can prevent climate catastrophe



WORLD NEWS

Making the Invisible Visible:

Islamabad Innovators Rethink Groundwater Management Through U.S.-Supported Project

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: ScaleX Technologies Pvt. Ltd. marked the completion of the Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) 2025 project, "Protecting Islamabad's Groundwater Aquifer," with a closing ceremony highlighting its findings, lessons and the future of groundwater management in Islamabad. The ceremony was attended by Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr. Musadik Malik and U.S. Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Andy Halus.

Led by ScaleX team members and U.S. exchange alumni Adnan Faisal and Sayaf Arbab, the project was supported by the U.S. Mission to Pakistan in partnership with the Pakistan-U.S. Alumni Network (PUAN). Working with the CDA, the team equipped two existing groundwater recharge sites with smart monitoring systems that track recharge, groundwater levels, rainfall and selected water-quality parameters in real time, demonstrating how recharge can become more measurable, transparent and effectively managed.

At the ceremony, the team presented its final report, project outcomes and key lessons, calling for a more systematic approach combining appropriate

siting, sound infrastructure, continuous monitoring and effective maintenance.



Dr. Musadik Malik emphasized the importance of smarter groundwater management for climate

resilience.

Minister Musadik Malik highlighted the need for improved management of surface and groundwater following the recent heavy rainfall in Islamabad. He said around 200 millimetres of rain had been recorded in the capital—the highest in three years—causing flooding. He emphasized that properly managing water resources was essential to safeguarding communities and ensuring sustainable water availability. He added that the government aims to encourage innovative approaches and greater private-sector involvement in addressing environmental challenges.

U.S. Acting Deputy Chief of Mission, Andy Halus added, "This project reflects the best of American innovation. By working hand-in-hand with U.S. water experts, ScaleX and TIE have shown how U.S. technology, innovation, and expertise can directly help secure Islamabad's water future."

The ceremony also brought together representatives from government, industry, donor and development organizations, academia and the private sector. Discussions emphasized stronger coordination and future partnerships to help Islamabad manage its groundwater as a shared and increasingly critical resource.

Ugandan envoy calls for economic bridges with RCCI to unlock new Pakistan-Africa trade avenues

TIMES REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Ambassador of Uganda to Pakistan, Twaha Matata has called for bilateral economic bridges with Pakistani entrepreneurs during a high-level interaction at the

President Khalid Farooq Qazi and Vice President Usman Shaukat emphasized that establishing direct business-to-business linkages and joint ventures is essential to translating diplomatic relations into tangible



Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI).

The envoy, accompanied by Additional Foreign Secretary (Africa) Hamid Asghar Khan, met with RCCI leadership to chalk out roadmap for expanding bilateral trade, joint investment ventures and private-sector ties between both nations.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed range of opportunities in various sectors, and shared views on identifying means to further strengthen trade ties. Welcoming the delegation along with Senior Vice

commercial gains.

Discussions centered on identifying high potential export sectors, streamlining trade channels and positioning Rawalpindi's industrial base to tap into emerging African consumer markets.

Addressing on the occasion, RCCI President Usman Shaukat reaffirmed the Chamber's institutional commitment to spearheading economic diplomacy, providing active facilitation to local exporters, and building sustainable commercial partnerships across the African continent.

Ethiopia's National Dialogue: A Milestone for Peace and Consensus

TIMES REPORT

ADDIS ABABA: Ethiopia's four-year National Dialogue process concluded on August 22, 2026, marking a major effort to address the country's longstanding political, social and structural divisions and build a foundation for lasting peace and national consensus.

abroad also contributed through consultations held in countries including the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden and the United Arab Emirates.

The National Dialogue Conference formally opened in Addis Ababa on July 15, 2026, bringing together around 4,000 delegates representing regional

The Ethiopian government has pledged to review and implement the recommendations through appropriate legislative and policy measures. Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed has repeatedly called for political differences to be addressed through dialogue and compromise rather than confrontation. The process has also received

international support. European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Kaja Kallas visited Addis Ababa during the opening of the conference and welcomed the grassroots nature of the initiative, expressing hope that it would produce concrete results for peace, reconciliation and national unity.

The successful completion of the National Dialogue represents an important step in Ethiopia's efforts to build political consensus, strengthen institutions and prevent future cycles of instability. Its long-term impact, however, will depend on how effectively its recommendations are translated into practical reforms and inclusive governance.

states, political parties, civil society, religious institutions, professional associations, traditional leaders, women, youth and the diaspora.

Delegates discussed eight major agenda pillars covering national identity and nation-building, the structure of government and federal system, Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa, religious affairs and interfaith harmony, institution-building, rule of law, human rights, transitional justice and socio-economic issues. After five weeks of deliberations, the conference concluded on August 22 with a set of nationally negotiated recommendations aimed at strengthening peace, reconciliation and governance.

The process was launched through the establishment of the Ethiopian National Dialogue Commission (ENDC) on December 29, 2021. The independent commission was mandated to promote national consensus, reconciliation and sustainable peace through an inclusive, citizen-led process.

The dialogue adopted a home-grown approach, drawing on Ethiopia's traditional institutions, indigenous knowledge and cultural practices.

It began with grassroots consultations involving farmers, elders, women, youth and community groups before moving to regional and diaspora consultations and ultimately the national conference. Ethiopians living

abroad also contributed through consultations held in countries including the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden and the United Arab Emirates.

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GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA COMMUNICATION & WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

(Single Stage Two Envelop E - Pak Acquisition & Disposal System (EPADS))

C&W Department C&W Division No. II Swat at Matta Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa invites electronic bids from eligible firms / bidders in accordance with KPPRA Procurement Rules 2014 amended upto date on single stage two envelopes procedure for the following works.

S.#	Name of Work	Required Category of PEC	Bid Security
1	Access Roads to new potential Tourist sites at Malakand Division. ADP No:1751/251475 (2026-27) Sub Head: Construction of Dad Sar Road (9 Km) PACKAGE-1 RD 0+000 to 3+000	C-4 & above	Rs. 3230600/-
2	Construction of Dad Sar Road (9 Km) PACKAGE-2 RD 3+000 to 6+000	C-4 & above	Rs. 3585600/-
3	Construction of Dad Sar Road (9 Km) PACKAGE-3 RD 6+000 to 9+000	C-4 & above	Rs. 3635200/-
4	Construction of Manago Karorai Kandaw Road (9 Km) PACKAGE-1 RD 0+000 to 3+000	C-4 & above	Rs. 3464600/-
5	Construction of Manago Karorai Kandaw Road (9 Km) PACKAGE-2 RD 3+000 to 6+000	C-4 & above	Rs. 2881400/-
6	Construction of Manago Karorai Kandaw Road (9 Km) PACKAGE-3 RD 6+000 to 9+000	C-4 & above	Rs. 2812000/-

Period of Completion	As per Work Order
Last date and time of submission of E Bids	25.09.2026 At 12:00 PM
Date & Time of opening of Technical Proposals	25.09.2026 At 12:30 PM
Date & Time of Opening of Financial Bids	Within 14 days after approval of Technical Bids

CONDITIONS: -

- Instructions to bidders can be obtained from the office on any working day or downloaded from C&W web site (www.cwd.gkp.pk) before submission date / time.
- The bidders shall submit bid security and, where applicable, additional security in accordance with KPPRA Notification No. S.R.O. (14)/Vol:1-24/2021-22/6058-71 dated 10 May 2022.
- Submission, retention and enforcement of bid security and additional security instruments shall be governed by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Public Procurement (Bid Security Instrument Submission and Enforcement) Regulations, 2025, notified vide No. S.R.O. (29)/Vol:1-40/2025-26/699-711 dated 29 October 2025, which is reproduced as below.
- All bidders shall enter the details of bid security and, where applicable, the additional security instrument in the E-PAK Acquisition and Disposal System (EPADS) at the time of bid submission.

The original bid security and additional security instruments, detail of which have already been entered in EPADS, shall be submitted to the procuring entity well before the closing date and time of bid submission. The procuring entity shall retain the original bid security and additional security instrument of all bidders until signing of the Contract with the best evaluated bidder or till the bid validity period whichever is earlier.

i. In case of failure to submit the original bid security and additional security instrument before the date and time, the procuring entity shall debar the bidder for a period of one (01) year.

ii. In the case of violation for second time, blacklist him for a minimum period of three (03) years in accordance with Section 29 of the KPPRA Act read with Rule 44 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Public Procurement of Goods, Works and Services Rules, 2014.

5. A Copy of the Technical Proposals in the required format i-e available on C&W Website www.cwd.gkp.pk, Downloads -> Technical Evaluation Applications, is mandatory and to be uploaded as part of E-Pak Acquisition & Disposal System (EPADS) before submitting Financial Bids, in case of incomplete or failure to upload Technical Proposals complete in all aspects on EPADS, the bid shall be considered as Non-Responsive.

6. Complete detail of Bid Security in shape of CDR i.e. Bank Name, CDR Number (s) and Date (s) must be submitted electronically along with E - Bid on the E-Pak Acquisition & Disposal System (EPADS).

7. All Bidders are required to be registered with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority under Finance Act, 2013 Act No. XXI of 2013.

8. The financial bids of technically responsive bidders shall be opened publicly on the date, time and venue communicated through EPADS and to the concerned bidders after completion and approval of the technical evaluation.

9. Venue of Bids opening is "Office of the Executive Engineer C&W Division No. II Swat at Matta".

Executive Engineer, C&W Division No. II Swat at Matta Ph: 0946-792299 INF/4493/26

Pakistan National Pavilion spotlights culture and literature at Southern China Book Fair

TIMES REPORT

BEIJING: The Pakistan National Pavilion was inaugurated at the 2026 Southern China Book Fair, held at the China Import and Export Fair Complex in Guangzhou.

The dedicated pavilion, featuring an array of cultural exhibits and literary works, marked an expansion of Pakistan's participation in one of China's largest and most influential book fairs, underscoring the deep cultural and people-to-people ties between the two countries.

The Southern China Book Fair, first launched in 1993, is a comprehensive book and cultural exhibition that adheres to principles of public welfare, accessibility, mass engagement, and high-quality curation. This year's edition covers approximately 40,000 square meters of exhibition space, featuring 31 specialized

pavilions. More than 300 publishing institutions from China and abroad are showcasing over 500,000 titles of publications and cultural creative products.



ucts, alongside nearly 30,000 original foreign-language editions, CEN reported on Wednesday.

At the opening ceremony of the Eurasian Pavilion, Sardar Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Guangzhou, highlighted that books serve as a timeless bridge connecting different lan-

guages, peoples, and civilizations.

The pavilion features a themed photo exhibition commemorating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplo-

matic relations between China and Pakistan. Three Pakistani enterprises and the country's leading publishing institution participated in the exhibition, bringing a diverse selection of literary and cultural offerings.

Among the participants, Pakistani publishing house

Ferozsons (Pvt.) Ltd., which traces its history back to 1894, has brought a collection of authoritative books and literary works from Pakistan for display and exchange, covering topics ranging from history and philosophy to contemporary fiction and poetry.

Notably, Ferozsons has been actively translating popular Chinese children's books into Urdu, thereby introducing outstanding Chinese literary works to young readers in Pakistan and fostering cross-cultural understanding from an early age.

The opening event also featured a Rubab performance by a Pakistani artist. The Rubab, a traditional lute-like string instrument deeply rooted in Pakistani musical culture, captivated the audience and added a vibrant performing arts dimension to the pavilion's inauguration.

REAR WINDOW

Governor briefs acting president on KP security, flood situation

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on

tion in the province, particularly law and order. PPP Parliamentary Leader in the Khyber

The Governor apprised the acting president of the prevailing security situation in

exchanged views on the flood situation in different areas of the province, ongoing relief



Wednesday called on Acting President Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani at Aiwan-e-Sadr and briefed him on the overall situa-

Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Ahmad Karim Kundi accompanied the Governor during the meeting.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and discussed matters relating to peace and stability in the province. The two leaders also

and rehabilitation efforts for the affected people, and the country's overall political situation.

KP Governor, Ex-AJK President Discuss Kashmir

ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Wednesday held meeting with former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Yaqoob Khan and discussed the political situation in Kashmir, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) organizational affairs and other matters of mutual interest. PPP Parliamentary Leader in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Ahmad Kundi and former MPA Ehtesham Javed Akbar Khan were also present during the meeting.

Bannu Intensifies Dengue Prevention Measures

TIMES REPORT

BANNU: Deputy Commissioner Bannu Muhammad Faheem has said that preventing and treating dengue is the responsibility of the Health Department, while raising awareness and adopting precautionary and preventive measures is the responsibility of every citizen.

A high-level meeting on dengue prevention was held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Bannu in compliance with the directives of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government. Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Faheem chaired the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, the deputy commissioner directed the authorities to immediately deploy teams comprising male and female health workers, along with personnel from the

Tehsil Administration (TMA) and Sanitation Services

and leishmaniasis, and officials from relevant departments attended the meeting.



Company (WSSC) Bannu, to dengue-affected areas and begin preventive measures without delay.

He said coordinated efforts were necessary to eliminate dengue breeding sites in both urban and rural areas and prevent the spread of the virus.

Assistant Commissioner Headquarters Allah Nawaz Khan, Additional Assistant Commissioners Sajjad Hussain and Nawab Khan, District Health Officer Dr Zafar Iqbal, the district coordinator for dengue, malaria

District Health Officer Dr Zafar Iqbal briefed the meeting on preventive measures taken against dengue.

He said dedicated wards had been established at major hospitals and free treatment, along with other necessary healthcare facilities, was being provided to dengue patients.

The deputy commissioner stressed the need to increase manpower and directed the Health Department, TMA and WSSC Bannu to immediately deploy additional personnel in the field for dengue prevention activities.

Culture and Tourism Authority's 2026-27 Budget approved

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: The sixth meeting of Board of Directors of Culture and Tourism Authority was held under the chairmanship of Special Assistant to Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on

Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism and Culture Fateh-ul-Mulk Ali Nasir, Secretary Tourism and Culture Saadat Hassan, Director General Culture and Tourism Authority Shahid Khan and other board mem-



Tourism, Culture, Archaeology and Museums Malik Adeel Iqbal, where important decisions were taken to promote tourism in the province and improve the performance and affairs of the authority. Member Provincial Assembly and

bers attended the meeting. The meeting reviewed in detail the implementation status of decisions taken during the fifth meeting of Board of Directors. The authority's budget for the financial year 2026-27 was presented and,

after detailed deliberations, approved by the board. The meeting also decided to increase the salaries of Tourism Police personnel.

Special Assistant Malik Adeel Iqbal directed the authority to reduce expenditures and ensure effective and optimum utilisation of available resources. He also directed the authorities to initiate paragliding activities in the province and include a clause for an annual increase in lease rentals in agreements concerning government properties leased out to private parties.

The board also approved the outsourcing of camping pods and rest houses, with the matter referred to the Technical Committee for further consideration.

KP Reviews Measures to Contain Lumpy Skin Disease

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to the Chief Minister for Livestock Khursheed Khan Khattak chaired an important meeting to review the current situation regarding Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Secretary Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives Zareef-ul-Mani, Director General Livestock and Dairy Development Department Dr Asad Khan, and other senior officials of the Livestock Department attended the meeting.

The meeting reviewed the current situation of the disease, as well as ongoing awareness and vaccination campaigns.

KP delegation visits Philippines to learn from PhilHealth experience

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: A delegation of policymakers and healthcare professionals from

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan, led by Provincial Minister for Health Khaleeq ur Rehman, undertook an exposure visit to the Philippines to learn from the country's experience in implementing PhilHealth, its national health insurance programme.

During the visit, the delegation held detailed engagements with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), where briefings were provided on international experiences in

achieving Universal Health Coverage, particularly in India and Far Eastern countries. The discussions focused on

including the YAKAP Primary Care Benefit Package, which focuses on preventive healthcare, outpatient services and



health financing models, digital transformation, risk pooling and strategies for expanding healthcare coverage.

Officials from PhilHealth briefed the delegation on the organisation's major programmes and reforms,

strengthening primary healthcare facilities.

The delegation also reviewed PhilHealth's IT-based claims management system, healthcare provider accreditation mechanisms, case-based payment systems and quality assurance and

regulatory frameworks.

Provincial Minister for Health Khaleeq ur Rehman said that the KP government is committed to learning from successful international healthcare models and adapting best practices according to the province's local needs and requirements. He said the experience gained from PhilHealth would be utilised to further strengthen Sehat Card Plus and the Jawandoon Card (OPC Scheme), with the objective of making healthcare more accessible, efficient, effective and financially sustainable for the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Modern healthcare facilities to be introduced in prisons

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Under the special focus of Tariq Saeed Marwat and Iftikhar Ullah, modern healthcare facilities to be introduced in prisons; central telemedicine hub at Police Services Hospital Peshawar and pilot spokes at prisons in Peshawar, Mardan and Haripur.

Significant progress has been made towards establishing telemedicine services in prisons across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to ensure timely, quality and modern, healthcare facilities for inmates. The initiative is being pursued under the special attention and guidance of Tariq Saeed Marwat, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister for Home &

Tribal Affairs, and Iftikhar Ullah, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister for Prisons.



The initiative reflects the commitment of both Special Assistants to improving the welfare of prisoners and bringing modern, technology-based healthcare solutions to correctional facilities in the province. Their coordinated efforts are aimed at ensuring that

inmates receive timely medical consultation while reducing the difficulties and risks associ-

ated with transporting prisoners to hospitals.

The Home & Tribal Affairs Department, Prisons Department and Health Department will establish the telemedicine service under a Hub-and-Spoke Model. The Police Services Hospital Peshawar will serve as

the central telemedicine hub, while pilot telemedicine spokes will initially be established at prisons in Peshawar, Mardan and Haripur.

Through the proposed system, prisoners will be able to receive online consultations from specialist doctors and consultants in different medical disciplines. Where necessary, patients will also be referred to teaching hospitals, tertiary-care hospitals or District Headquarters (DHQ) hospitals for further treatment.

The telemedicine network will initially operate through three modes: live video consultation, store-and-forward services, and remote patient monitoring.

Arshad Ayub chairs BoG meeting of Mufti Mahmood College DIK

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Minister for Elementary & Secondary Education, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Arshad Ayub Khan, chaired an important meeting of the Board of Governors (BoG) of Mufti Mahmood College D.I. Khan at Peshawar on today.

The key agenda of the meeting was to conduct final interviews of shortlisted candidates for the appointment to the post of Principal, Mufti Mahmood

College D.I. Khan. Addressing the meeting, the Minister underscored the provincial government's commitment to merit, transparency, and good governance in the education sector. He directed the Board to ensure that the selection process is carried out strictly on merit so that qualified and competent leadership is appointed to improve academic performance and administrative efficiency at the col-

lege. The Minister further stated that strengthening institutional leadership through merit-based appointments is essential to achieve the goals of quality education and better learning outcomes across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. This initiative reflects the provincial government's continued efforts to promote merit-based recruitment and strengthen governance in public sector colleges.



Fazal Shakoor chairs reviews meeting of KP-RIISP

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Public Health Engineering, Fazal Shakoor Khan, on Wednesday chaired a review meeting of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Rural Investment and Institutional Support Project (KP-RIISP) being implemented in the merged tribal districts with the support of the World Bank.

Member of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Abdul Ghani Afridi attended the meeting, while Project Director Adnan Ahmad briefed the Provincial Minister and other participants in detail about various components of the project, progress made so far and the future course of action.

Aftab Alam chairs legislative body meeting to review various bills

TIMES REPORT

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Law, Human Rights and Parliamentary Affairs Aftab Alam on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Cabinet-constituted Legislative Committee in Peshawar, which reviewed various important legislative matters and draft laws concerning the province.

Advisor to the Chief Minister on Social Welfare, Women Empowerment and Special Education Malik Liaqat Ali Khan, Advocate General Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Shah Faisal Usman Khail, Senior Member Board of Revenue, Secretary Law Department, Secretary Excise, Taxation and Narcotics Control Department, officials from the Chief Minister's Office, Board of Revenue,

Social Department, Welfare Schools Regulatory

ing the social protection system, improving the scope of support for



Authority (PSRA), Industries Department and other concerned departments attended the meeting.

The committee discussed various matters aimed at making the legislative process more effective, comprehensive and aligned with public interest.

The proposed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ehsaas Social Protection and Resilience Authority Act, 2026 came under detailed review. The committee examined legal aspects related to strengthen-

deserving and vulnerable segments of society, and enhancing public resilience and recovery capacity during natural and other emergencies.

The committee also considered the Land Acquisition Bill, 2026 and reviewed various aspects of the legal procedures governing land acquisition, protection of the rights of affected landowners, transparency, and safeguarding the legitimate interests of all stakeholders during the acquisition of land for public projects.

Body of missing Irish tourist recovered in Mansehra

BY:APP

PESHAWAR: The body of an Irish tourist, Alexander, who went missing while returning from Musa Ka Musalla, a high peak in Mansehra district, was recovered three days after his disappearance.

According to Rescue 1122 sources on Wednesday, Alexander's body was found at Akhori Meadows Paracha. A search operation had been underway for the past three days, involving teams from Rescue 1122, police, the Forest Department and local residents. The body was shifted to Mansehra for further legal formalities.

KP VC Dr. Tahir Khalily Joins National Mental Health Workshop

TIMES REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination (NH&RC), in collaboration with UNICEF, WHO and other partners, organized a two-day National Mental Health Consultative Workshop on September 1-2, 2026, at Ramada Hotel, Islamabad, for the development of the National Mental Health Policy (2027-2036).

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tahir Khalily, Vice Chancellor, Khushal Khan Khattak University, Karak, represented Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) at the national-level

consultation and contributed an important academic perspective to the development of the policy. Speaking during the workshop, Prof.



Dr. Khalily highlighted the critical role of educational institutions in promoting mental health among students and young people.

He emphasized that schools, colleges and universities should be integrated into the national

mental-health framework through awareness and prevention programs, counseling and psychological support, early identification of mental-health concerns, and timely referral to professional services.

He also stressed the need to strengthen student counseling services, train teachers and faculty to recognize early warning signs, reduce stigma, and create safe and supportive educational environments.

Universities, he noted, can further contribute through research, professional training, awareness campaigns, peer-support initiatives and collaboration with health authorities and mental-health professionals.