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The REGIONAL TIMES Of Sindh

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Heartland

PPP's Barrister Pir Mujeeb Engages Public in Dadu Gathering

Money

-Zafar Moti is Sad!

PSE 100-index down by 1521.39 points to close at 161,281.76

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Organ Donation a National Duty and Moral Obligation, Declares Health Minister Mustafa Kamal

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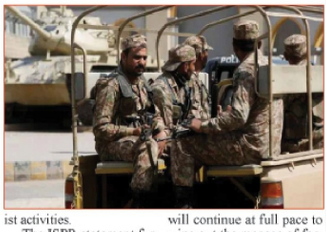
Thriller in Faisalabad: Pakistan Edges South Africa by Two Wickets

Sharjeel Rolls Out Phase 2 of Pink Scooty Scheme to Empower Sindh's Women

KARACHI: Edition Vol. XVI No 291 Regd. No. 114 visit us at www.regionaltimes.com Wednesday, November 05, 2025, Jumada Al-Awal 14, 1447 A.H 8 Pages

CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

Four India-Linked Militants Eliminated In Balochistan Intelligence Operation: ISPR



RAWALPINDI: Security forces neutralised four terrorists belonging to Indian-proxy, Fitna al-Hindustan, during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Balochistan's Kalat district, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement on Tuesday.

The military's media wing said that security forces on the night of November 1, 2025, conducted an IBO on the reported presence of militants belonging to Indian proxy Fitna al Hindustan.

"During the conduct of the operation, own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location and, resultantly, four Indian-sponsored terrorists were sent to hell," the ISPR added.

It said that weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorists, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities.

The ISPR statement further said a sanitisation operation was commenced to eliminate any other Indian sponsored terrorists found in the area.

It added that the relentless counterterrorism campaign under vision "Azm-e-Istehkam" — as approved by the federal apex committee on the National Action Plan (Nap) by security forces and law enforcement agencies will continue at full pace to wipe out the menace of foreign-sponsored and supported terrorism from the country.

President Asif Ali Zardari paid tribute to the security forces for eliminating four terrorists in Kalat IBO.

In a statement, the president said the nation stands firmly with its forces in their resolve to root out terrorism under Operation Azm-e-Istehkam.—RT/Agency

27th Amendment Showdown: Dar Prepares To Table Bill After Intense Coalition Consultations

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar said on Tuesday that the federal government would present the 27th Constitutional Amendment in accordance with the Constitution and only after consultation with coalition partners.

The ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) formally approached its key ally — the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) — for its support in introducing the amendment, which would establish a Constitutional Court, and make certain changes to the National Finance Commission (NFC) Award.

This tweak also sought to amend Article 243 — which pertains to the supreme command of the armed forces — as well as several other key constitutional adjustments, according to PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

Other proposals included the introduction of executive magistrates, provisions for the transfer of judges, and the removal of protections related to provincial shares in the NFC Award.

Speaking on the floor of the Senate, Dar said that the government was in the process of introducing constitutional tweaks, confirming that the 27th amendment was "on its way".

"We will try to present it in accordance with the Constitution," he assured, adding that legislators would be able to debate and share their opinions before the matter was referred to the relevant committee.

The deputy prime minister emphasised that the amendment would not be rushed through Parliament. "It will not happen that the amendment is passed in haste — I give this assurance," he said.

Referring to the PPP, Dar said that the government was currently in discussion with its major coalition partner and would also take other allied parties — including the Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P), the Awami National Party (ANP), and the Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) — into confidence before finalising the draft.

"The final document will be presented before the House," he said.

Responding to recent remarks by Bilawal, Dar said it was his right to express his opinion.

"Bilawal Bhutto's observations were not made without basis — those points have been discussed," he added, noting that the government and PPP had reached an understanding and would now bring other allies on board.—RT/Agency

Dar Hails Google Chromebook Plant As Defining Leap In Pakistan's Tech Manufacturing Drive

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister Senator Ishaq Dar said that the government is taking "concrete" steps to realise the vision of a digital nation, describing the launch of Pakistan's first Chromebook assembly line as a "defining moment" in the country's digital transformation.

Addressing the event, "Building the Digital Future, Together," which marked the launch, the deputy prime minister said that localising this initiative will make digital tools more affordable and accessible, especially within the education sector.

"From the launch of Pakistan's first Chromebook assembly line to Google's announcement of establishing a local presence in Pakistan and to the agreement between the Government of Pakistan and Google to upskill our youth, this is a defining moment for our country's digital transformation," Dar said addressing the event attended by federal ministers, IT experts and representatives of tech giant Google.

The deputy prime minister said that the initiative held great economic significance, marking an industrial milestone to laying the foundation for jobs, supply chain development, and future technology exports.—RT/Agency

Spiritual Pilgrimage Begins: 2,100 Indian Sikhs Arrive In Pakistan For Guru Nanak's Birth Anniversary

Around 2,100 Sikh pilgrims from India arrived in Pakistan to participate in events marking the 556th birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak Dev Ji, with commemorations being held under the supervision of the Evacuee Trust Property Board.

The pilgrims were warmly received at the Wagah border by ETPB Chairman Dr Sajid Mehmood Chauhan, Additional Secretary (Shrines) Nasir Mushtaq, and Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee President Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora. Senior Sikh leaders, including Jathedar Akal Takht Kaldeep Singh Gargaj, SGPC group leader Bibi Gurinder Kaur, and Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee representative Ravinder Singh Sawhney, were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, Nasir Mushtaq said pilgrims are being provided accommodation, meals, transport, and medical facilities during their stay. After completing immigration and customs formalities, the pilgrims departed for Gurdwara Janam Asthan in Nankana Sahib via special buses.

The main ceremony to mark the birth anniversary will be held on November 5 at Gurdwara Janam Asthan, where federal and provincial ministers are expected to attend.—RT/Agency

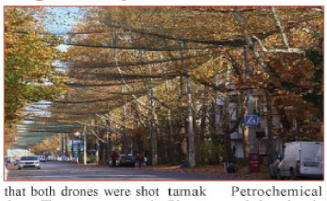
Trump Teases Saudi Entry Into Abraham Accords As MBS Heads To Washington in High-Stakes Visit

WASHINGTON: U.S. President Donald Trump has expressed optimism that Saudi Arabia will soon become part of the Abraham Accords, a landmark series of normalization agreements between Israel and several Arab states. In an interview with an American television network, President Trump said, "Saudi Arabia will join the Abraham Accords — we'll work out a solution," suggesting that discussions with the Kingdom are progressing positively.

Commenting on the long-debated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Trump remarked that he was uncertain whether such a framework would ultimately be achieved. "I'm not sure it will be a two-state solution — it depends on Israel and me," he stated, indicating that Washington's approach under his administration remains flexible and largely guided by Israel's security and political considerations.

Meanwhile, the White House has confirmed that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (MBS) will visit Washington on November 18. Senior U.S. officials disclosed that the Crown Prince's meeting with President Trump will focus on bilateral ties, defense cooperation, and regional issues, including peace efforts in the Middle East. According to American media reports, the upcoming meeting comes amid Trump's growing pressure on Riyadh to formally join the Abraham Accords, a move that could significantly reshape regional alliances. Analysts believe that Saudi Arabia's potential inclusion would mark a major diplomatic victory for Washington and Israel, further isolating Iran and strengthening U.S.-Arab strategic cooperation.—RT/Agency

Ukrainian Drones Strike Deep Into Russian Territory As Fierce Battle For Strategic City Escalates



NEW YORK: Ukrainian long-range drones attacked an industrial plant around 1,300 kilometers (800 miles) inside Russia, local officials said Tuesday, while Ukraine's army remained locked in an intense battle to hold back a Russian push on the key city of Pokrovsk in the eastern Donetsk region.

Two drones targeted an industrial facility in Sterlitamak, a city in Russia's Bashkortostan region, regional Gov. Radiy Habirov said in an online statement. He didn't specify what facility was targeted but he said that both drones were shot down. There were no casualties, and the facility was operating normally, he said.

Meanwhile, the city administration reported an explosion at the Sterlitamak Petrochemical Plant caused the plant's water treatment facility to partially collapse, adding that the cause of the explosion was not known.—RT/Agency

PIA Privatisation Reaches Final Countdown, Says Government's Adviser

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Privatisation Muhammad Ali said on Tuesday that the privatisation process of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has entered its final stages and is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

Addressing a joint press conference alongside Federal Minister for Power Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari, Ali said the PIA privatisation process would be expedited in the coming days.

He added that work was also progressing on the privatisation of other state-owned enterprises (SOEs), including power distribution companies, where issues related to assets and pensions were being addressed.

According to sources, four consortiums— Arif Habib Limited, Fauji Fertilizer Company, Airblue, and Lucky Group — have expressed interest in acquiring PIA.

These consortiums have also requested the government to relax certain conditions in the bidding process.

Officials have clarified that PIA's name will remain unchanged and that the national flag will continue to be displayed on its aircraft.

Meanwhile, PIA flight operations across the country came to a halt after aircraft engineers launched a protest against the management, ARY News reported.

According to sources, the dispute between the national carrier's management and the Society of Aircraft Engineers of Pakistan (SAEP) intensified, leading engineers to suspend the clearance of aircraft for departure.

The engineers announced they would not resume work until the attitude of the PIA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) improves, sources said.—RT/Agency

Finance Minister Aurangzeb Declares Pakistan's Economy 'Turning The Corner'

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb said on Tuesday that Pakistan's economy was in a "good spot", attributing this to macroeconomic stability and "geopolitical tailwinds".

"Where we are as a country, we find ourselves in a good spot at this point and time because there is a confluence of factors," he said, adding that macroeconomic stability combined with "geopolitical tailwinds" had boosted the economy. The finance minister made these remarks in a virtual address at the second edition of the Pakistan International Maritime Expo and Conference 2025 (PIMEC-25), which is being held in Karachi. "Our traditional partners, who have helped us through thick and thin … we find ourselves in a spot that we can now leverage, and we should leverage — in terms of these relationships which have been strong for the longest time — to move from government-to-government (G2G) discussions to trade and investment flows into the country," he said. In his address, the finance minister described blue economy as a game changer for Pakistan's future growth. He also went on to say that Pakistan had received "external validation" for its economic policies. "After a hiatus of two to three years, we have three global rating agencies which are fully aligned, not only in terms of the upgrades we have seen over the course of this year but also [in terms of] their outlook, which is stable for Pakistan's economy," he said.—RT/Agency

Constitution Is Sacred — But Not Untouchable, Declares Rana Sanaullah

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah on Tuesday dismissed concerns surrounding the proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment, saying it is "not a storm" and that consultations have only just begun.

Speaking to the media, Rana Sanaullah clarified that no amendment will be made without consensus among political allies and parliamentary stakeholders. He stressed that the amendment is being unnecessarily presented in a frightening way, despite the fact that only preliminary discussions are taking place.

Rana Sanaullah emphasized that consultations with coalition partners are ongoing, and nothing will be finalized without collective agreement. "Things will be brought to the fore only after discussions with allies," he said, urging calm and patience.

Responding to comments by PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, he asked, "Which of the things mentioned by Bilawal Bhutto is not under discussion?" and reaffirmed that the process is consultative and transparent.

PML-N respects 18th Amendment

Clarifying his party's position, the adviser said that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has no issue with the 18th Amendment, which defines the distribution of resources between the federation and the provinces.

He, however, underlined the need for better balance in financial allocations. "After paying off defense expenses and loans, the federation has nothing left," he noted, emphasizing the importance of equitable resource sharing to ensure fiscal stability across Pakistan.—RT/Agency

Bushra Bibi Pushes For Urgent Hearing In High-Profile £190 Million NAB Case

ISLAMABAD: Bushra Bibi, the wife of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan, has filed a petition in the Islamabad High Court, requesting an expedited hearing for her application to suspend the sentence in the £190 million case. In her petition, Bushra Bibi argues that, according to judicial policy, applications for bail and suspension of sentences should be prioritiaed and heard promptly. She claimed that her case is being unjustly delayed and is being neglected without valid reason. The petition also highlighted that failing to schedule a hearing for her case violates the Women Protection Act and goes against the rulings of the Supreme Court.—RT/Agency

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND

Larkana Hosts Seminar Spotlighting Workplace Harassment Awareness

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: A seminar on "Harassment" was organized at the SRSO office by the Regional Office of the Provincial Ombudsman Sindh. Speaking at the event, Consultant District and Sessions Judge Syed Shakeel Haider emphasized that harassment affects both men and women and assured that strict action will be taken on complaints. He highlighted that women hold equal rights in government offices, with a 15% job quota. Speakers, including SRSO District Manager Sultan Ahmed Chandio, stressed creating a respectful workplace. The session concluded with a Q&A segment providing awareness and guidance to participants.

Hyderabad Police Reinforced: 190 Fresh ASIs Join Ranks

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: In a major step to strengthen law enforcement, Hyderabad District Police inducted 190 new Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) through the Sindh Public Service Commission's merit-based process. A formal ceremony was held at the SSP Office, where SSP Adeel Hussain Chandio, PSP, distributed appointment orders and congratulated the recruits. The new batch includes 157 male, 27 female, and 6 minority candidates. SSP Chandio urged them to perform their duties with honesty, discipline, and dedication while ensuring public service and community trust. The new inductions are expected to significantly enhance Hyderabad Police's operational capacity and improve law and order in the district.

DC Hyderabad Zain-ul-Abideen's Surprise Civil Hospital Visit Exposes Dengue Gaps

By GM Chandio

HYDERABAD: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Hyderabad, Zain-ul-Abideen Memon, paid a surprise visit to Civil Hospital's Dengue Ward to inspect patient care and review anti-dengue measures amid rising cases. He interacted with patients and staff, assuring that all dengue patients are receiving proper treatment and facilities. The DC announced arrangements for blood donors to assist patients lacking family support and praised hospital staff for their dedication. He reiterated the administration's commitment to eliminating dengue through intensified fumigation, enhanced medical supplies, and a 24/7 control room. Citizens were urged to cooperate by removing stagnant water to help curb mosquito breeding.

PPP's Ayaz Shah Sheerazi Reaffirms Party's Commitment to Democracy and Welfare

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has always made great sacrifices for the restoration and strengthening of democracy and its institutions, said MNA Ayaz Shah Sheerazi while speaking to a delegation of journalists in Badin. He stated that under the dynamic leadership of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, PPP representatives are actively working to address public grievances and provide basic amenities. Sheerazi emphasized that the party continues the mission of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, introducing various development schemes including roads, schools, hospitals, and clean drinking water projects. He reaffirmed his family's commitment to serving the people of Badin, Thatta, and Sujawal.

Daulatpur Woman Cries Foul Over Police Excesses, Demands Justice

By Aijaz Jokhio

DAULATPUR: A woman from the Kacha area, Fatima Dahri, along with her young children, staged a protest outside the Daulatpur Press Club against alleged police misconduct. Speaking to journalists, Fatima claimed that Daulatpur police unlawfully entered her home, violating privacy and damaging property. She further alleged that police officers falsely implicated her husband, Karamdad Dahri, in fabricated cases after detaining him without reason. Appealing to SSP Shaheed Benazirabad and former provincial education minister Sardar Khan Muhammad Dahri, she urged authorities to take notice of the injustice and provide her family with fair treatment and protection.

Shahdadkot Post Office Shutdowns Leave Public Frustrated

SHAHDADKOT: The Shahdadkot Post Office has become a source of trouble for citizens as it often remains closed. Reportedly, the staff, mostly non-local, close the office early to return to their hometowns and open it late in the morning. Due to this irresponsible behavior, people face difficulties in accessing postal services, such as purchasing stamps, paying utility bills, and sending registered mail. Residents have appealed to the Federal Minister for Postal Services to appoint local employees and ensure the post office remains open 24 hours with a night shift to better serve the growing population.--RT

Notorious Drug Peddler Nabbed in Badin with Two Kilos of Hashish

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Badin police, under the guidance of SSP Qamar Raza Jiskani, arrested notorious fugitive and murder case suspect Noor Hassan Imrani, son of Muhammad Ars Imrani, near Dargah Shaikh Umar on Hyderabad-Badin Road. During the operation, police recovered 2.2 kilograms of hashish from the accused. Noor Hassan, involved in multiple serious crimes, has 26 cases registered against him, including theft, drug trafficking, attempted murder, murder, and illegal arms possession. SSP Jiskani announced a cash reward of Rs 50,000 and a CC-III award for the CIA team, recommending recognition by IG Sindh.

Illegal Constructions Razed in Ranipur During Crackdown by AC Sobhodero

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: Assistant Commissioner Sobhodero, Shah Muhammad Chang, along with the town administration, carried out a demolition drive against illegal constructions in Ranipur, including the Shahi Bazaar and other locations. Speaking to journalists, AC Shah Muhammad Chang stated that encroachments were causing significant difficulties for residents. Following complaints from citizens and under the special directives of DC Khairpur, the operation was launched to remove unauthorized structures. He assured that the drive would continue, emphasizing that all efforts are being made to minimize inconvenience to the public while eliminating encroachments from the city.

Kotri Tragedy: Youth Crushed by Water Tanker Sparks Public Outrage

By Shaikh Sindhi

KOTRI: A tragic accident near Brohi Chowk in Kotri claimed the life of 21-year-old Zeeshan Brohi, who was crushed under a water tanker. The driver fled the scene. Following legal procedures, the body was handed over to the family from Taluka Hospital. Residents of Khuda Ji Basti rely on water tankers due to a lack of basic water supply. Many accidents have occurred due to negligence of tanker operators. Despite repeated demands, no action has been taken against underage drivers or tanker owners.

Gunfire Erupts in Larkana's Ali Goharabad, Four Injured

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: In Ali Goharabad area near Sabzi Mandi, Larkana, an alleged dispute over a financial transaction led to armed firing, leaving 80-year-old Parson Bagan Khan Golo and his sons, 41-year-old Mithal Khan, 48-year-old Muhammad Azam, and 28-year-old Fayaz Ali Golo, injured. Police, acting on information, arrested one suspect, Ali Hyder Bhutto, along with his weapon. The injured were shifted to Trauma Center for treatment. According to the victim's son, the firing occurred after a disagreement over bananas purchased from Sajjad Bhutto. Police have registered a case and investigation is ongoing.

SSDP Spreads Hope in Thatta with Free Medical Camp and Aid for the Needy

THATTA: In a remarkable display of compassion, the Society for Support to Destitute Persons (SSDP) organized a free medical camp at Muradani village, taluka Gharabari, district Thatta. Hundreds received medical check-ups, free medicines, food, and clothing. Distinguished guests, including Retired Brig. Khadim Jatoi and DG Planning & Development Abdul Nabi Memon, praised SSDP's mission to uplift the underprivileged. The camp's Organizers vowed to continue such welfare initiatives across remote regions to fight poverty and empower marginalized women.—RT

Larkana Gears Up for Massive Measles-Rubella Vaccination Drive from Nov 17

By Saleem Soomro

LARKANA: Deputy Commissioner Larkana, Dr. Sharjeel Noor Channa, announced that a Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign will be held from November 17 to 29, 2025, aiming to vaccinate 263,000 children, including 113,609 in Larkana district. Presiding over the MR Catch-Up Meeting at Darbar Hall, Dr. Channa emphasized door-to-door awareness, school seminars, and involvement of social mobilizers and Rescue 1122. Officials, doctors, and taluka supervisors will ensure the campaign's success. He highlighted that measles, a deadly virus, has caused around 16 million child deaths worldwide from 2000-2023.

PPP's Riaz Shah Sheerazi Pledges Relentless Public Service in Thatta, Sujawal

By Samiullah Memon

DARRO: Expressing commitment to the welfare of local residents, PPP MPA and former Provincial Minister Riaz Hussain Shah Sheerazi met journalists at Dadro Press Club, highlighting his family's legacy of public service. He stated that political positions and ministries hold no importance compared to serving the people of Thatta and Sujawal, especially coastal communities facing natural disasters. MPA Sheerazi emphasized efforts to improve education, noting that rural schools struggle due to waterlogging and poor infrastructure, and announced plans to secure special packages from the Sindh Chief Minister and provincial Education Minister to provide basic facilities and support for students and teachers.

Protesters Launch Hunger Strike Against UC Chairman in Tando Bago

By Sher Ali Khawaja

TANDO BAGO: Residents of several villages, including Khuda Bux Chandio, Mir Muhammad Chandio, Allah Ditto Pathan, Lalo Pathan, Muhammad Usman Chandio, Saeed Khan Chandio, and Dost Ali Chandio, held a symbolic hunger strike for the third consecutive day at Tando Bago Press Club. Led by Bilawal Pathan, Aijaz Chandio, Chelaram, and Muhammad Umar Chandio, protesters accused UC Mir Ghulam Muhammad Khan Talpur Chairman Fida Hussain Memon of failing to carry out any development work over 30 months, despite a monthly budget of Rs 10 lac. They demanded intervention from the Sindh government and PPP leadership to remove the corrupt chairman and provide basic facilities in their villages.

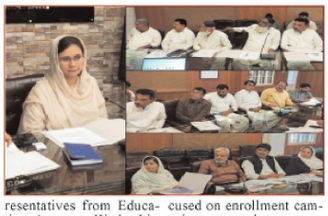
PPP Badin Prepares to Celebrate 58th Foundation Day with Renewed Zeal

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) District Badin held an important meeting at the District Council Hall, chaired by District President Jam Ali Asghar Halipoto, to finalize preparations for the party's 58th Foundation Day celebrations. The meeting was attended by Dr. Sajjad Chandio, Pir Waqar Shah Jilani, Fida Hussain Mandhro, MPAs Bibi Yasmeen Shah, and Taj Muhammad Mallah, among others. Participants vowed to celebrate the occasion with zeal and reaffirmed commitment to PPP's mission of public service and democratic struggle.

Matiari Officials Directed to Focus on Education, Tackle Out-of-School Crisis

By Sajjad Ali Abbasi



MATIARI: Additional Deputy Commissioner-II Matiari, Iqra Jannat, emphasized that all relevant departments must collaborate to improve and promote education, calling keeping children out of school a "national loss." Presiding over a meeting at Latif Hall Matiari, she reviewed the performance of the District Reform Oversight Committee, Out-of-School Children Enrollment Committee, and textbook distribution. Representatives from Education, Accounts, Works, Literacy departments, Taluka Education Officers, private schools, and NGOs attended. The meeting focused on enrollment campaigns, parental awareness, UC-level monitoring, and timely textbook delivery, stressing honesty and accountability in all efforts.

Awami Tehreek Rallies Against Proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment

By Farooq Randhawa

DIGRI: Leaders of Awami Tehreek, including Lala Jarwar, Amir Bakhsh Jarwar, Khair Muhammad Chandio, and Wazir Chandio, addressed corner meetings in Daulat Mor, Ibrahim Chandio, and Village Chakar Chandio against the 27th Constitutional Amendment. They said the amendment, which allows the federal government to create new provinces, threatens Sindh's history, language, culture, and identity. The leaders warned that Sindh could be divided and handed to vested interests. A peaceful protest march has been announced on November 16 from City Gate Hyderabad to the Press Club. Large numbers of villagers, including Ghulam Muhammad Chandio, Zain Chandio, and Iqbal Chandio, attended the meetings.

Measles-Rubella, Polio Campaign Kicks Off in Thul

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: Dr. Sohrab Khan Sarki, MPA Thul, inaugurated the MR + OPV Campaign (November 2025) at the Assistant Commissioner's Office, Thul. The ceremony was attended by Mukhtiarkar Thul Mr. Deedar Kandrani, officers, partners, and stakeholders. During the event, Dr. Sarki and the DEOC team performed the ribbon-cutting to formally launch the campaign. Dr. Sarki administered two drops of OPV to a child, while the vaccination team provided the MR vaccine to an eligible child, marking the commencement of the district-wide immunization drive.

Vice Chairman Accuses Munawarabad Chairman of Withholding Records

By Hafeez Mallah

GAMBAT: The ongoing dispute between the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Union Council Munawarabad has escalated. Secretary Aqeel Ahmed Jiskani submitted a complaint to the Director of Local Government, Sukkur, accusing Vice Chairman Abdul Rauf Arain of embezzling funds and making fake appointments. The Director expressed strong anger at the Secretary and ordered him to appear with full records on November 10. Abdul Rauf Arain said the Chairman is avoiding record submission, but legal action will be taken to secure the documents, which is their constitutional right.

REGIONAL TIMES

NATIONAL

Organ Donation a National Duty and Moral Obligation, Declares Health Minister Mustafa Kamal

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Health Mustafa Kamal has emphasized that promoting organ donation is a national and moral responsibility aimed at safeguarding human lives. Speaking during a meeting on organ transplantation in Pakistan, he highlighted the urgent need to raise public awareness and build trust regarding organ donation. The minister directed authorities to simplify administrative and legal procedures to make the process of organ donation easier and ensure timely treatment for deserving patients. Mustafa Kamal further stated that the national system of organ transplantation will be upgraded to meet international standards, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and equitable access to life-saving treatments across the country.—RT/Agency

PMDC Eases Medical Exams, Scraps 65% Passing Marks Rule for MBBS and BDS Students

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has withdrawn its earlier decision requiring MBBS and BDS students to secure a minimum of 65 percent marks to pass their annual examinations.

According to a new notification, the 65 percent passing mark requirement—introduced for the 2024-25 academic session—has been revoked, and the previous 50 percent passing criteria have been reinstated. Earlier, the PMDC had also made 85 percent attendance mandatory for students; however, this condition has now been revised back to 75 percent. The PMDC has directed all medical and dental universities across the country to ensure strict compliance with the latest notification. The move has been widely welcomed by students and educational institutions, who had expressed concerns over the feasibility of the increased academic requirements.—RT/Agency

Supreme Court Canteen Blast: Gas Cylinder Explosion Injures Four in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: Several people were injured in a gas cylinder explosion at the Supreme Court canteen on Tuesday. According to initial reports, the blast occurred during repair work on an air conditioning gas plant within the canteen premises. Rescue officials confirmed that four individuals sustained injuries in the incident and were immediately shifted to a nearby hospital for medical treatment. The explosion caused significant damage to the canteen's furniture and nearby facilities. Following the blast, the omb Disposal Squad (BDS) arrived at the scene and began collecting evidence to determine the exact cause of the explosion. The impact of the blast was so strong that lawyers present in various courtrooms rushed outside in alarm. Authorities said that the explosion also affected Courtroom No. 6 of the Supreme Court. An official inquiry has been launched to investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident.—RT/Agency

Bilawal Summons PPP Central Executive Committee to Finalize Stance on 27th Amendment

ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday said that only an outline of the 27th amendment has been prepared so far.

Talking to media in Islamabad KP Governor said that the National Assembly and the Senate sessions have been summoned, the constitutional amendments will be discussed in the session.

Governor said that the former chief minister KP was intending to run over Islamabad. "I hope the new chief minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will focus attention over the province's development projects".

He said the meeting of the chief minister with the PTI's founder in jail has been a court matter. Replying a question, governor said, "I don't have the 27th constitutional amendment's draft. "Bilawal Bhutto has summoned the People's Party's central executive committee's session on November 06. The party's CEC will take any decision with regard to the 27th amendment," Faisal Karim Kundi said.—RT

METRO KARACHI

Dumper Owners Held During Protest Attempt on Karachi Super Highway

KARACHI: A group of dumper owners gathered on the Super Highway on Monday to stage a protest, prompting a swift response from the police. A heavy contingent of law enforcement officers reached the site and took several protesters into custody before they could block the highway.

The demonstration had been called by Dumper Association President Liaquat Mehsud, who had earlier announced plans to block the Super Highway to press for their demands. However, police officials stated that no one would be allowed to obstruct traffic or disrupt public movement. Authorities confirmed that despite the attempted protest, traffic on both tracks of the Super Highway remained smooth and unaffected. Police have maintained their presence in the area to ensure law and order.—RT/Agency

Gold Bonanza? Hanif Gohar Claims $636 Billion Worth Found in Tarbela Dam Soil

KARACHI: Chairman Air Karachi and prominent businessman Hanif Gohar has claimed that soil extracted from Tarbela Dam contains gold reserves estimated to be worth around $636 billion. Speaking at a press conference at the Karachi Press Club, Gohar said that both Prime Minister and Chief of Army Staff have been briefed on the findings, with the Army Chief responding positively to the matter.

He explained that divers collected soil samples from within the dam, which were later analyzed in a laboratory. The study revealed traces of gold, and by multiplying the concentration with the total volume of gold-bearing soil, the estimated value of $636 billion was determined. Gohar emphasized the urgent need to extract the soil to utilize the potential gold reserves and added that authorities have been formally informed about the discovery for further evaluation and necessary action.—RT/Agency

Governor Tessori Extends Condolences to Family of Dumper Accident Victim Shahzaib

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori on Monday visited the residence of Shahzaib, who tragically lost his life in a dumper accident in Karachi's Garden area. During the visit, the Governor expressed deep sorrow and offered heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. He prayed for the departed soul's forgiveness and elevated ranks, as well as patience and strength for the grieving family to bear the irreparable loss. Governor Tessori said he fully shares the pain of the family, describing the incident as profoundly tragic, adding that it had taken away "the light of an entire household." He emphasized that those responsible for such fatal traffic incidents must face exemplary punishment to prevent similar tragedies in the future.—RT/Agency

Public Fury at Tipu Sultan Office as Protesters Decry K-Electric's Load-Shedding

KARACHI: Residents staged a protest outside K-Electric's Tipu Sultan IBC office on Monday against prolonged load-shedding, disrupting traffic flow in the surrounding area. The demonstrators condemned the power outages on feeders with 100 percent bill recovery, calling the move "an unjust and oppressive act." They demanded an immediate end to the ongoing load-shedding, which they said has made daily life unbearable.—RT/Agency

13 Dengue Deaths Recorded Across Sindh in October, Confirms Health Secretary

KARACHI: Sindh Health Secretary Rehan Baloch has confirmed that 13 people lost their lives to dengue fever across Sindh during the month of October. According to official data, four deaths were reported from Hyderabad, one from Tando Muhammad Khan, one from Karachi Korangi, three from Karachi Malir, two from Karachi East, and two from Karachi West.

The health secretary said that the department is collecting daily reports on dengue cases from 164 hospitals and 53 laboratories across the province, including 36 in Karachi and 17 in Hyderabad. Baloch added that adequate supplies are available for dengue treatment and control, including 19,400 testing kits, over 5,100 kilograms of spray medicines, 8,700 liters of fogging chemicals, 3,500 kilograms of larvicides, and 36,600 mosquito nets. He noted that repeated spraying, fogging, and larva elimination are being carried out at sensitive locations in accordance with international standards.—RT/Agency

Dumper Association President Liaquat Mehsud Granted Bail in Garden Traffic Case

KARACHI: An Additional and Sessions Judge (South) approved the bail of Dumper Association President Liaquat Mehsud on Tuesday against surety bonds worth Rs50,000.

Liaquat Mehsud was nominated in a case related to aerial firing following a traffic accident in Karachi's Garden area. The incident, which occurred late at night in Ramswami, claimed the life of motorcyclist Muhammad Shahzaib after being hit by a dumper truck, while his wife sustained injuries.

Police had registered two separate FIRs — one against the dumper driver responsible for the accident and another against the Dumper Association president for alleged firing at the scene. The court's decision has granted temporary relief to Mehsud as the investigation into the tragic incident continues.

PIA Resumes Flight Operations After Brief Disruptions

KARACHI: The Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) spokesperson has announced that flight operations have been restored through alternative arrangements after temporary disruptions caused by the engineering group's unlawful work stoppage.

According to the spokesperson, international flights PK-783 from Karachi to Toronto and PK-701 from Islamabad to Manchester departed on schedule, while several other international flights took off after delays.

He said that some PIA flights had faced delays and cancellations due to the unauthorized suspension of work by the engineering staff, but normal operations have now resumed. The spokesperson further stated that flight PK-747 from Lahore to Madinah departed after a delay of 14 hours, while flights from Karachi to Jeddah, Islamabad to Dubai, Islamabad to Dammam, and Sialkot to Riyadh were also delayed by several hours. Additionally, PK-741 from Islamabad to Jeddah departed six hours late, and PK-300 from Karachi to Islamabad left after a four-hour delay.—RT/Agency

Central Punjab

DG Punjab Horticulture Authority Inspects Gujranwala's New Beautification Projects

By Dr. Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Director General Punjab Horticulture Authority, Naheed Gul Baloch, visited Gujranwala Horticulture Agency to review ongoing plantation and beautification projects. At Chanda Fort Flyover, she was briefed on ornamental plant care, while at the agency's head office, updates on nurseries, seasonal flower production, and preparations for winter planting were shared. DG Baloch inaugurated a plantation campaign at Gulshan Iqbal Park and inspected Rasakh Irfani Park and nurseries, emphasizing timely flower delivery, quality improvement, and staff efficiency. She stated her commitment to monthly visits to ensure Gujranwala becomes a green, beautiful city under CM Maryam Nawaz's vision.

Media Orientation Session Sheds Light on Key Health Initiatives in Narowal

By Rana Mudassar

NAROWAL: A media orientation session was organized by the Department of Health and Population, chaired by CEO Health and Population Dr. Muhammad Adnan. The event was attended by District Population Welfare Officer Muhammad Pervaiz Ranjha, District Health Officer Dr. Muhammad Tariq, Dr. Naveed Hyder Sheerazi, Mumtaz Butt, and WHO representative Dr. Aqib Hanif. Dr. Adnan and Muhammad Pervaiz Ranjha briefed journalists on initiatives addressing rapid population growth, maternal and child health, Clinic on Wheels, and the Measles-Rubella campaign. Dr. Adnan stressed the media's role as the fourth pillar of the state in raising public awareness and highlighting institutional gaps.

Grand Religious Scholars' Training Held in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the District Department of Dawat-o-Islah, Pakistan Markazi Muslim League, a major organizational and training program for religious scholars was held at Markaz Al-Farooq, Toba Tek Singh. The session was presided over by Mian Suhail Ahmad, General Secretary, Abdul Majeed Salik, President of District Toba and Milli Labour Federation Punjab, and Qari Muhammad Ismail Muhammadi, President of Dawat-o-Islah, District Toba. Chief guest Hafiz Abdul Rauf emphasized scholars' role in guiding the Ummah and promoting Dawat and Islah. District and tehsil officials along with numerous scholars presented suggestions to strengthen organizational activities.

Punjab Colleges Gujranwala Celebrates Educators with Long Service Honors

By Dr Mirza MB Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Punjab Colleges Gujranwala organized a ceremony to honor teachers with "Long Service Awards" and an annual dinner. The event was attended by Director Administration Muhammad Shahzad Rafiq, Principal Muhammad Salman, Raees Ahmed Chatta, Muhammad Imran, Mrs. Alia Sadiq, Mrs. Princess Arif, Mrs. Amina Nasir, Dean Punjab College University Campus, Vice Principals, and numerous teachers. Speaking at the ceremony, Muhammad Shahzad Rafiq emphasized the vital role of teachers in shaping students into responsible members of society and urged parents to support them. Awards were presented to teachers serving 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years, followed by a prestigious dinner honoring their dedication.

Toba Tek Singh Police Register 1,313 Cases in October Crackdown Report

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Under DPO Ibadat Nisar, Toba Tek Singh police registered 1,313 cases in October 2025, arresting 460 accused and recovering over Rs. 9.8 million. Authorities also apprehended 123 proclaimed offenders and 23 court absconders. Police seized 4 guns, 2 Kalashnikovs, 30 pistols, and 109 rounds in 36 weapons-related cases. Narcotics operations led to the recovery of 10.842 kg hashish, 2.17 kg heroin, and 1,040 liters of alcohol. Additionally, 16 gang members involved in 40+ cases were arrested, while 372 searches verified 9,396 individuals under the National Action Plan.

Toba Tek Singh Administration Launches Aggressive Anti-Smog Drive

By Abid Mehmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Following instructions from Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Toba Tek Singh administration has stepped up efforts to control smog. Under Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela, anti-smog operations are being conducted across all four tehsils. Municipal Committee Gojra, led by Chief Officer Syed Yasir Ali, carried out large-scale sprinkling and watering on roads, including construction areas, to reduce dust. Measures also include road cleaning, preventing illegal burning, and public awareness campaigns. Authorities emphasized that all possible steps are being taken to safeguard citizens' health and maintain a clean environment.

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EDITORIAL

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

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Earth on the Edge: Humanity's Last Warning Before the Point of No Return

The United Nations' latest Emissions Gap Report is not just another climate update — it's an obituary for human complacency. The world has officially failed to meet the 1.5°C target set under the 2015 Paris Agreement, and unless radical action is taken now, we are sealing our own extinction. According to the UN, global warming will breach this threshold within the next decade, triggering irreversible damage that no technology or treaty can undo.

What does this mean? It means heatwaves that kill, droughts that starve, and floods that wipe out entire communities. At just 2°C of warming — which is where we are headed — twice as many people will be exposed to extreme heat, and 99% of coral reefs will vanish, collapsing entire marine ecosystems. The planet is screaming, yet we continue to burn coal, oil, and gas like addicts refusing to admit the problem.

Pakistan, too, must listen. We are not spectators; we are victims and contributors. Our floods, melting glaciers, and smog-choked cities are not random tragedies — they are consequences of a global crisis we help perpetuate through inaction, weak enforcement, and misplaced priorities.

COP30 is being billed as humanity's last chance to course-correct. But summits mean nothing without real commitment — from governments, corporations, and each of us. Every ton of carbon we save, every tree we plant, every watt of renewable energy we use counts toward survival.

The Earth is not negotiating anymore. It's warning us — perhaps for the last time. If we fail to act today, tomorrow's headlines won't speak of overshoot or emissions — they'll speak of extinction.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND

Hyderabad SITE Association Honors HESCO Chief Faizullah Dahri for Service

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: The Hyderabad SITE Association of Trade & Industry organized a dinner reception to honor HESCO Chief Executive Officer Faizullah Dahri for his services in improving power supply in the SITE industrial area. Chairman Abdul Rahman Rajput welcomed Dahri, highlighting the resolution of long-standing electricity issues, including feeder separation and tripping problems. Dahri praised public cooperation and emphasized efforts toward zero load-shedding feeders for industrial and agricultural consumers. HESCO officials, including COO Ejaz Sheikh and Chief Engineer Zulfiqar Memon, attended. The ceremony featured Sindhi cultural presentations, Quran recitation, and the presentation of traditional Ajraks, caps, and commemorative shields to Dahri, who expressed gratitude for the recognition of his team's efforts.

Sindh University Pays Tribute to Shaheed Benazir Bhutto's Enduring Legacy

By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: The Institute of Sindhology at the University of Sindh hosted a lecture titled "Benazir Bhutto-How History Will Judge Her," organized by the Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Chair. Speakers, including Professor Dr. Syed Jaffar Ahmed, praised Benazir Bhutto as a symbol of democracy, political struggle, and women's empowerment. Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri highlighted her global influence and dedication to education.

PPP leader Aajiz Dhamrah emphasized her role against dictatorial regimes. Dr. Rehana Mallah pledged continued research on her vision. The event drew scholars, students, and political figures, underscoring Benazir Bhutto's enduring impact on Pakistan's sociopolitical landscape.

Murder Case Hearing Deferred by Court

By Hasnain Shahid Channa

NAUSHEHRO FEROZE: The hearing of the Bilawal Zardari murder case and related cases at Mohabbat Dero Police Station has been postponed by the court until November 19. Speaking to media outside the court, former Federal Minister and GDA leader Ghulam Murtaza Jatoi expressed concerns over the 27th constitutional amendment, warning that it may harm Sindh's rights. He criticized corruption in Sindh, noting mismanagement of development funds, and highlighted increased police harassment and illegal detentions of youth. Jatoi called for legal reforms to curb corruption and accused authorities of exploiting Sindh's resources, stating the province faces unprecedented injustices.

Renowned Businessman and Sportsman Hamid Ali Qureshi Passes Away

By Sajan Jani

SHAHDADPUR: Hamid Ali Qureshi, 47, a prominent businessman of Shahdadpur and star player of Al-Faisal Sports Club, passed away suddenly due to a heart attack. He was the nephew of Haji Javed Qureshi, President of the All Pakistan Tajarun Association Sindh. Friends, colleagues, and well-wishers gathered in large numbers to mourn his loss. His funeral prayer was offered at Husseina Madressa, attended by traders, officials, political and social figures, and citizens. He was laid to rest at Abaani Graveyard amid heavy grief. Condolences continue to pour in from relatives, friends, and community members, honoring his social contributions and sportsmanship.

Tunio Community Rises in Protest, Demands Arrest of Dr Mahmir's Killers

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: The Tunio community people held a protest in front of the Mehar Press Club, demanding the arrest of those responsible for the murder of Dr. Mahmir Tunio in Karachi. Led by Rafiq Ahmed, Ghulam Haider Tenyo, Waseem, Mazhar, Naveed Tunio and others, the demonstrators condemned the police for allegedly staging a false encounter to kill Dr. Mahmir. Protesters urged authorities to apprehend all culprits and ensure justice for Dr. Mahmir Tunio and his family.

Hyderabad DIG, SSP Offer Condolences Over Constable's Death in Tando Allahyar

By Afaque Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: DIG Hyderabad Tariq Razaq Dharejo and SSP Tando Allahyar Syed Saleem Shah visited the residence of Police Constable Abdul Mueed Shaikh, who passed away a day earlier to offer condolences. They recited Fateha, prayed for his forgiveness and high ranks in the hereafter, and offered special prayers for his family's patience. Both officials affirmed that the entire police department stands in solidarity with the bereaved family during this difficult time.

Sakrand Celebrates Muhammad Aslam Mallah's Birthday with Festive Spirit

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: A birthday celebration was held for Pakistan International Airlines officer Muhammad Aslam Mallah at the historic site of Dalil Kot in Sukkur, organized by his community members. Senior politician Noor Ahmed Lakho attended as chief guest, while respected Magasi community leader Taj Muhammad Magsi joined as honorary guest. Speakers praised Aslam Mallah as a beloved member of the community. Attendees, including Abdul Latif Mallah, Ata Muhammad Siyal, and others, joined in prayers for his long life, concluding with a cake-cutting ceremony to share joy and celebrations.

Sakrand Press Club Delegation Visits Injured Journalist Gul Muhammad Laghari

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: A delegation from Sakrand Press Club, led by Information Secretary Ghulam Nabi Mallah, visited senior journalist Gul Muhammad Laghari at his village, Mir Khan Laghari, to inquire about his health. The team, including Mansoor Laghari and Qazi Javed Sanai, checked on Laghari, who lost a leg in a recent road accident and has now been fitted with an artificial limb. Laghari urged youth to ride motorcycles safely and appealed to parents to supervise their children to prevent accidents and lifelong disabilities.

PPP's Barrister Pir Mujeeb Engages Public in Dadu Gathering

By Javed Laghari

DADU: Pakistan People's Party District President and MPA Barrister Pir Mujeeb held a public meeting at his Dadu residence, listening to local residents' issues and addressing their concerns. Following the meeting, Barrister Pir Mujeeb, along with former Administrator Imdad Hussain Dawach, Raees Ghulam Haider Khoso, Staff Officer Shahmir Khan Chohan, PA Pir Amir, and other officials including Syed Ghazanfar Shah, Syed Asadullah Shah, Syed Owais Shah, Nazir Ahmed Qambrani, Qurban Chandio, Tahir Laghari, and Aslam Chohan, discussed urban and civic matters. The delegation emphasized cooperation between the public and administration for timely resolution of local issues and improvement of municipal services in Dadu city.

SU Umerkot Campus Faculty, Staff Protest Over Unpaid Salaries

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: Faculty and staff of Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Sub-Campus Umerkot have not received salaries for the past four months, forcing them to stage protests. Led by Mohammad Saleem Chang, Dr. Shoaib Hakro, Aslam Pirzado, Rehmatullah Kunbhar, Gul Hassan Mangrio, Zulfiqar Marri, and others, they marched from Teen Talwar Chowk to Umerkot Press Club chanting slogans demanding immediate payment. They warned that if salaries are not released, classes could be suspended, affecting students' education. Protesters criticized the Tando Jam administration, HEC, and provincial authorities for ignoring their plight and urged urgent action.

Educational Awareness Drive Held at Chhor Station Primary School

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: Chhor Station, one of the oldest primary schools in Chhor city, hosted a small educational program. The event was presided over by Headmaster Muhammad Ishaq Nohri, with Bilawal Aleem Samejo, Abdul Latif Nohri, and Abdul Qayoom Abid also present. Guests included Degree College Chhor Principal Prof. Noor Muhammad Nahri, Lecturer Muhammad Hayat Soomro, and notable local figures like Seth Muhammad Akram Rajput and journalist Sarop Singh Sodha. Awards were distributed to top-performing students of grades four and five. Visitors praised the school's cleanliness, management, and teaching standards, emphasizing such programs boost students' interest and motivation in learning.

Blaze Ravages 20 Paddy Heaps Near Thatta Village

By Mohammad Khan Memon

THATTA: A sudden blaze near Haji Khan Jodani Mallah village, close to Chhuto Chand, destroyed 20 heaps of paddy and their husk belonging to Mauludi Mitho (Mithan) Jodani Mallah and Ali Nawaz Jodani Mallah. The fire caused losses worth millions of rupees. The exact cause of the blaze remains unknown. Both owners appealed to authorities for compensation, stating that the flames engulfed the stored paddy and straw in a matter of minutes, leaving them with significant financial damage.

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SPORTS

Royston Drenthe Shocks Football World, Claims Messi Used Racist Slur on Field

Former Real Madrid midfielder Royston Drenthe has accused Lionel Messi of repeatedly using a racial slur against him during their on-field encounters, sparking debate about respect and cultural sensitivity in football.

In a recent interview, Drenthe, 38, claimed that Messi called him "Negro" in Spanish both before and after games, a term that, while common in South America, made him deeply uncomfortable.

"You know what really bothers me? The tone with which he always called me 'negro, negro,'" Drenthe said. "I understand that it is very common in South America, but we cannot just accept it."

Drenthe also recalled a specific incident while representing Hércules CF against Barcelona, where Messi greeted him with "Hola negro" before the match but refused to shake his hand after the final whistle.

"I had the same problem with Messi again. Before the match, he greeted me, 'Hola negro,' but after the match, he didn't shake my hand," Drenthe added.

Drenthe, who made 65 senior appearances for Real Madrid between 2007 and 2012, said the remarks were especially hurtful because they came from a peer and one of football's biggest stars.

He faced Messi three times—once with Real Madrid, once with Hércules, and once with the Netherlands national team—winning only with Hércules.—Agency

Naqvi Hails Triumphant Return of International Cricket to Faisalabad After 17 Years

FAISALABAD: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Mohsin Naqvi has lauded the return of international cricket to Faisalabad as Pakistan face South Africa in the opening match of the three-match ODI series at the Iqbal Cricket Stadium.

Taking to social media platform 'X', Naqvi expressed his joy over the city's long-awaited return to the international cricket circuit.

"After 17 long years, international cricket finally returns to Faisalabad," Naqvi stated.

"Delighted to see the excitement as Pakistan and South Africa begin the ODI series here in Pakistan's own 'Manchester'," he added.

"The passion of Faisalabad's people for cricket is truly unmatched. Insha'Allah, Faisalabad will continue to host international matches in the future," he concluded.

The ongoing series marks a historic milestone, as Faisalabad last hosted an ODI on April 11, 2008, when Pakistan defeated Bangladesh by seven wickets at the same venue.All three matches of the series are being played at the Iqbal Cricket Stadium, with the remaining ODIs scheduled for November 6 and 8.The contest follows Pakistan's 1-1 draw in the two-match Test series and a 2-1 victory in the T20I series against the Proteas, highlighted by a match-winning innings from skipper Babar Azam in Lahore on Saturday.Historically, Pakistan and South Africa have met 87 times in ODIs — Pakistan have won 34 matches, South Africa 52, while one ended without a result.In Faisalabad, the two teams have clashed three times before — Pakistan emerged victorious in 1994 and 2007, while South Africa won in 2003.When this news was filed, South Africa, batting first, were 23-0 after five overs, with Lhuan-dre Pretorius on 16 and Quinton de Kock on 7 at the crease.—Agency

Sydney Thunder Blow: Ravichandran Ashwin Ruled Out of BBL Season 15

SYDNEY: Former Indian spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has been ruled out of his maiden Big Bash League (BBL) season with Sydney Thunder after undergoing knee surgery.

The veteran off-spinner expressed his disappointment over missing the tournament, saying he was "gutted" to lose the opportunity to become the first capped Indian player to feature in the BBL.

Ashwin revealed on Instagram that he sustained a knee injury while training in Chennai and subsequently underwent surgery, which ruled him out of the upcoming season scheduled from December 14 to January 25.

"I'm gutted to miss BBL|15," Ashwin said in a Thunder statement.

"My focus now is recovery and coming back stronger. I'm grateful to the Thunder family and the fans for the warmth they've already shown me. Trent [Copeland, Thunder general manager] and the entire management made me feel part of the club from our very first conversation.

"If rehab and travel plans allow, I'd love to be around the group later in the season and meet the fans. Wishing both Thunder teams a big year."

Thunder general manager Trent Copeland said the franchise was devastated by the news but remains hopeful of involving Ashwin in a non-playing capacity during the season.

"Everyone at Sydney Thunder was devastated to learn of Ash's knee injury that has ruled him out of BBL|15, and we wish him well in his recovery," Copeland said.—Agency

Ben Stokes Secures Fresh Two-Year Deal as ECB Unveils New Central Contracts

Test captain and all-rounder Ben Stokes has signed a fresh two-year central contract with England, providing a strong indication that he plans to feature in the 2027 Ashes series on home soil.

The 34-year-old all-rounder has significantly reduced his playing schedule due to injury, representing only England's Test team over the past 12 months.

Stokes has struggled with hamstring and shoulder issues this year and has not appeared in a limited-overs international since November 2023.

However, his new deal suggests he has no immediate plans to step away from international cricket.

England head coach Brendon McCullum, whose contract runs until the end of 2027, could continue alongside Stokes under the successful coach-captain partnership.

Since taking charge in June 2022, England have won 25 and lost 14 Tests, though they are yet to secure a series victory against a "Big Three" nation ahead of the upcoming Ashes tour to Australia.

Stokes is among 14 players to have signed two-year central contracts, while a further 12 players remain contracted until October 2026, and four more have signed development deals.

The ECB announced the updated contract list on Tuesday, with Director of Men's Cricket Rob Key praising it as a reflection of "the depth and strength of talent" in English cricket.

Five players have earned their first central contracts: Sonny Baker, Liam Dawson, Saqib Mahmood, Jamie Overton, and Luke Wood.

Meanwhile, six players were not offered new deals after their contracts expired: Jonny Bairstow, Jack Leach, Liam Livingstone, Olly Stone, Reece Topley, and Chris Woakes, who has retired from international cricket.

Key highlighted that multi-year contracts, introduced two years ago, are designed to help manage the workloads of all-format players and ensure that England remains a priority for players in demand on the franchise circuit.

Notable contract extensions include Adil Rashid, who is expected to continue through at least the 2027 50-over World Cup, and Sam Curran, who returns to favour with a two-year deal after spending part of 2025 outside England's white-ball squads.

Jos Buttler has also committed to a two-year contract despite stepping down as white-ball captain earlier this year.

Several England Test players have only signed one-year deals, leaving open the possibility of a post-series overhaul if the Ashes results are unfavorable.—Agency

Amanda Anisimova Makes History, Defeats Every 2025 Grand Slam Champion

Amanda Anisimova made tennis history on Monday at the WTA Finals, becoming the only player in 2025 to defeat all four Grand Slam champions of the year.

The 23-year-old American achieved the milestone after rallying from a set and a break down to beat Madison Keys 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, keeping her semifinal hopes alive.

After the match, Anisimova expressed relief and pride in her on-court interview, admitting the match was tough and praising Keys for her performance.

"I feel like every time I come out here, my opponent's playing some incredible tennis; it's been a tough few matches, and today Maddie was playing so well. It was quite a battle out there," Anisimova said.

"I'm really happy with how I was able to turn it around in the second set and kind of turn that frown upside down," she added.

The victory not only leveled Anisimova's round-robin record at 1-1 but also secured a unique place in the 2025 season record book.

She has now defeated all four Grand Slam champions this year: Aryna Sabalenka (Australian Open), Iga Swiatek (Roland Garros), Coco Gauff (Wimbledon), and Madison Keys (US Open).

With all four champions now on her list of conquests, Anisimova stands alone with this rare achievement. It is unlikely anyone else will match her feat, as the WTA Finals mark the final event of the season.Elena Rybakina could still achieve the sweep, having already beaten Sabalenka, Swiatek, and Keys in 2025, but she would need to face and defeat Gauff in the semifinals or final.

Jessica Pegula also came close but fell short, missing a win over Keys, and with Keys now eliminated, she no longer has the chance to complete the set.With this victory, Anisimova will now face Iga Swiatek on Wednesday. Both players sit at 1-1 in their group, each having lost to Rybakina, and will battle for a spot in the semifinals alongside the Kazakh star.—Agency

Xhaka's Deflected Goal Saves Sunderland in Tense 1–1 Clash with Everton

SUNDERLAND: Everton midfielder Iliman Ndiaye lit up the Stadium of Light with a stunning solo goal, but Granit Xhaka's deflected strike earned Sunderland a hard-fought 1-1 draw in an entertaining Premier League clash on Monday.

Ndiaye opened the scoring in the 15th minute when he picked up the ball on the right flank, surged past four defenders, and curled a precise shot into the far corner from the edge of the box to give Everton the lead.

Sunderland responded early in the second half when Xhaka's powerful effort 40 seconds after the restart deflected off James Tarkowski and into the net, levelling the contest.

The home side then grew in confidence, creating several chances as they pressed for a winner.

The promoted side continue their impressive start to the season, moving into fourth place with 18 points from 10 matches, while Everton sit 14th with 12 points.

Despite Sunderland's strong second-half performance, Xhaka admitted his team were below par early in the game.—Agency

Arne Slot Promises Heartfelt Anfield Reception for Alexander-Arnold's Comeback

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool manager Arne Slot has promised a warm reception for former vice-captain Trent Alexander-Arnold when he returns to Anfield with Real Madrid for Tuesday's Champions League clash.

Speaking in his pre-match press conference, Slot described the England international as both "an exceptional player and a remarkable human being."

"I have great memories of the player and of the human being, so he will get a warm welcome from me," Slot said.

Alexander-Arnold's controversial summer move to Real Madrid, after more than a decade at his boyhood club, left many Liverpool fans divided.

Slot acknowledged the uncertainty surrounding the supporters' response but stressed that the club would treat their former star with respect.

"He will get a warm welcome from me. Let's first wait and see if he is on the pitch tomorrow, how the fans react, I have no clue," he added.

The match marks an emotional homecoming for the 27-year-old defender, whose transfer symbolised the end of an era at Anfield and the beginning of a new chapter in Spain.

Despite the emotional undertones, Slot made it clear that his focus remains on Liverpool's performance.

Meanwhile, Real Madrid coach Xabi Alonso also spoke fondly of Alexander-Arnold, encouraging him to enjoy his return.

"His story is different from mine, so he needs to enjoy that moment because it is nice to be back," Alonso said.—Agency

Face of the Day

Name: Abdul
About Me: Strike a pose if you love modeling like me!
Location: Karachi

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

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ENTERTAINMENT

Kim Kardashian Marks a Year of Loss, Honors Late Best Friend May in Emotional Tribute

Kim Kardashian is paying a nod to her childhood best friend on her death anniversary.

The SKIMS founder turned to her Instagram on Monday to share a heartfelt note on her pal, Lindsay May Palevsky.

"A year without you," the mother-of-four wrote in the caption. "The world paused on Nov 2nd and I know a part of the lifers went with you. Time feels strange without you here. We all see you in purple skies and butterflies. I love you forever, my lifer."

Earlier, the reality star added: "It was just your birthday and I know you never liked to make a big deal of it, but Happy Heavenly Birthday, Lindz."

"I waited months to post this, mostly because I couldn't find the right words," she continued. "Nothing really captures how quiet and empty our lifers chat feels without you in it. I know you'd probably roll your eyes at me posting anything — especially since you didn't really even have social media — but I couldn't go through this lake trip without feeling you everywhere, and I needed to share it."

Jennifer Lawrence Reveals How Her Iconic Roles Inspire Bold Fashion Choices

Jennifer Lawrence says separating herself from her characters is harder than it seems.

The struggles comes especially with personal style, she revealed in a new Harper's Bazaar interview about her upcoming film Die My Love.

"It happens every time," Lawrence said. "I see it happening while I'm shooting, and then I look back at pictures and I'm like, 'Who is that?'"

Her latest role as Grace, a new mother descending into postpartum psychosis, left its mark, too. "Grace was very influential. I noticed when I started to dress like her," she said.

Lawrence admitted that when it comes to Katniss from Hunger Games, it's the braids the actress can't wear the same."I can't put my hair in a braid without being like, 'Oh, you want somebody to bring up the movie?'" Lawrence starred as Katniss Everdeen in all four Hunger Games films between 2012 and 2015. Last year, she told Variety she'd be "totally" open to returning to the role.

Hilaria Baldwin Sets Record Straight After 'DWTS' Elimination Controversy

Hilaria Baldwin recently got candid and opened up about her elimination from Dancing with the Stars.

For those unaware, the 41-year-old American yoga instructor and entrepreneur participated in Dancing with the Stars season 34, but she could not stay there for long. On October 7, Hilaria and her partner, Gleb Savchenko, gave their last performance before their elimination.

However, she went on Instagram Live a few days later, where she stated that the reason for her dismissal from the show was "bullying."On Tuesday, November 4, Hilaria went to the Too Much podcast and talked about her elimination from the competition series last month.

The podcast host Emma Paige Klipsten asked the Extra star about the type of "bullying" she had to endure, to which she went on to describe as "a 'campaign' by viewers wielding their 10 fan votes against her.""They're gonna vote for all the couples besides me, or besides X person. So that suppresses your fan vote. This is not just like a me thing," Hilaria explained, clarifying that it was not just targeted at her.

REGIONAL TIMES

THE HEARTLAND

Two Booked for Sexual Assault in Mithi

By Ghazi Nohrio

MITHI: A case has been registered against two men for sexually assaulting a woman in Goth Joro, Mithi, and recording the incident. The complaint was filed by the victim's father, Wankaram. The accused, Prem Thakur and Love Meghwar, were arrested by Mithi police following the complaint. Authorities stated that a medical examination of the arrested men will be conducted. The police confirmed that the case was registered promptly based on the father's complaint, and investigation is underway.

Man Brutally Beaten Over Alleged Theft in Khuhra, SSP Orders Arrest

By M Dino Lakho

KHUHRA: A video showing a man, Bakhsh Ali Ujjan, being tied to an electric pole and brutally beaten by a powerful individual over alleged theft in Khuhra village went viral on social media. SSP Khairpur, Hasan Sardar Niazi, took notice and ordered the arrest of the accused and filing of a case. Police raided the suspect's house, but he escaped; however, his relative, Anwar Ujjan, was arrested. Senior police official Imdad Ali Khaskheli confirmed that the main accused would be apprehended soon and legal action initiated against him.

Jamshoro Police Launch Sweeping Operation Against Illegal Immigrants

By Munawar Chandio

JAMSHORO: Acting on directives from SSP Jamshoro Zafar Siddique Chaanga, the district police launched a large-scale search and combing operation targeting illegal foreign residents, especially Afghan nationals, in densely populated areas including Kotri Site, Khuda Ki Basti, and Labor Square. Led by senior officers including DSP Kotri Shahnawaz Jokhiyo and AC Kotri Nadeem Qadir Khokhar, the operation involved house-to-house searches, inspections of hotels, and commercial locations. Several suspects were taken into custody for verification. SSP Chaanga vowed continued action, emphasizing these measures aim to safeguard public lives, property, and maintain law and order in Jamshoro.

Four Local Youth Inducted as ASIs into Sujawal Police

By Kamran Hidayat

SUJAWAL: SSP Sujawal Aleena Rajpar has issued joining orders to four local youth of Sajawal district after they successfully passed the ASI examination conducted by the Sindh Public Service Commission. The selected candidates include Shankar Lal, Rizwan Malkani, Muhammad Ali Magsi, and Murk Umrani. SSP Alina Rajpar emphasized that local recruitment will not only improve law and order but also strengthen public trust in the police. She urged the new recruits to perform their duties with honesty, integrity, and dedication to public service.

Sindh Information Secretary Opens New BS English Section at Nazareth College

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Nadeem-ur-Rehman Memon, Provincial Secretary for Information and College Education Sindh, visited Nazareth College Hyderabad and inaugurated a new section of the BS English Literature program. During the visit, he inspected classrooms, laboratories, and the library, meeting teachers and students, and appreciated the college's administration and achievements. He emphasized modern education, IT, and scientific studies, urging students to study with dedication. Principal Dr. Saeeda Parveen Memon highlighted the college's 23 departments, 104 faculty members, and 3,000 students, and shared plans for the upcoming Platinum Jubilee. The event included Allama Iqbal Day celebrations, and Secretary Memon distributed shields to outstanding students and teachers.

Sindh High Court Bar Felicitates Justice Zafar Rajput on Taking Oath

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: The elected body of the Sindh High Court Bar Association met Acting Chief Justice Justice Zafar Rajput to congratulate him on taking oath as Chief Justice of the Sindh High Court. The delegation, led by President Advocate Ishrat Lohar and including senior office-bearers, praised Justice Rajput's contributions to Sindh's judiciary and expressed hopes for enhanced justice delivery, transparency, and addressing lawyers' concerns.

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS

Thriller in Faisalabad: Pakistan Edges South Africa by Two Wickets

FAISLABAD: In a nail-biting first ODI at Iqbal Cricket Stadium, Pakistan chased down South Africa's 264-run target, winning by just two wickets with two balls to spare. Mohammad Rizwan and Salman Ali Agha starred with crucial fifties, guiding the home side through a fierce South African bowling attack. Pakistan fought hard, losing eight wickets in the chase, but their resilience under pressure sealed a sensational and thrilling victory on home soil.—RT

METRO KARACHI

Sindh High Court Seeks Government Reply on Petition Challenging Heavy E-Challan Fines

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court has issued notices to the concerned authorities and sought their responses by November 25 on a petition challenging heavy fines imposed under the e-challan system for traffic violations in Karachi.The petitioner argued that the fines imposed in Karachi are excessive and discriminatory compared to other regions, stating that while certain violations carry a penalty of Rs 200 elsewhere, motorists in Karachi are fined up to Rs 5,000 for the same offense. The plea further contended that traffic law reforms have not been implemented uniformly across Sindh's other major cities.The petition named the Chief Secretary Sindh, Inspector General of Police Sindh, DIG Traffic, Director General Excise and Taxation, and Director General NADRA as respondents. The court directed all parties to submit detailed replies, questioning the fairness and proportionality of the fines imposed under the current e-challan system.—RT/Agency

Rare Sighting: Arabian Whales Spotted Near Gwadar Signal Hope for Species Recovery, Says WWF Pakistan

KARACHI: Technical Advisor to WWF Pakistan, Moazzam Khan, has reported the sighting of a large group of Arabian whales near Gwadar. According to Khan, local fishermen captured video footage showing more than six whales swimming close to Pakistan's coastal waters.

He stated that the presence of such a large group in Pakistan's marine territory is a positive sign, indicating that the endangered Arabian whale population is gradually recovering. Moazzam Khan added that these sightings reflect the improving health of the marine ecosystem in the Arabian Sea.He recalled that between 1963 and 1967, Soviet whaling expeditions in the Arabian Sea had targeted these whales near Pakistan's coast, causing a significant decline in their population.—RT/Agency

Gujjar, Mehmoodabad, Orangi Nullah Affectees Rally Outside Supreme Court Karachi Registry for Rehabilitation

KARACHI: Affectees of the Gujjar, Mehmoodabad, and Orangi nullah demolitions staged a protest outside the Supreme Court Karachi Registry on Tuesday, demanding their immediate rehabilitation as ordered by the court.

During the demonstration, one protester attempted to take his own life in despair over the government's inaction. The man lost consciousness amid the protest but was quickly attended to by fellow demonstrators.

Protesters said the Supreme Court had directed the Sindh government to ensure the rehabilitation of the displaced families. However, after paying two months' rent, the authorities allegedly stopped financial assistance. They added that while some victims received funds to rebuild homes, no alternate plots were allotted.The demonstrators also complained that despite filing a request for an urgent hearing, their case has yet to be scheduled for consideration by the Supreme Court.—RT/Agency

Nasim Nagar Police Recover Stolen Motorcycle in Swift Operation

By Muqeem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Nasim Nagar Police successfully recovered a stolen motorcycle from the Sindh River Stone Point area following information provided by arrested suspect Zulfiqar Ali. Earlier, Zulfiqar Ali and Shahroz Mallah were arrested in connection with FIR No. 293/2025, and a new case, FIR No. 537/2025, was registered against them. During interrogation, Zulfiqar Ali led police to another stolen motorcycle reported in FIR No. 166/2025 by Shoukat Rajput from Baldia. Another suspect, Ejaz Mallah, was arrested, while Darya Khan Mallah escaped. FIR No. 538/2025 was registered against Ejaz Mallah and Zulfiqar Ali. Investigation is ongoing.

DCC Meeting Reviews Progress of Mamta Health Program in TM Khan

By Abdul Sattar

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: A meeting of the District Coordination Committee (DCC) under the Sindh Social Protection Department's Mamta Program was held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office, chaired by DC Dharmoon Bhawani. Representatives from various departments discussed program progress, challenges, and future strategies. The Mamta Program provides Rs. 30,000 financial assistance to pregnant and lactating women for 1,000 days to ensure maternal and child health. District Coordinator Abida Naveed reported 32,130 women registered so far. The DC directed accelerated registration, strict monitoring against illegal deductions, and coordination with health departments and MRV teams to reach women without CNICs.

PPP Rejects Any Rollback of 18th Amendment, Urges Support Price for Paddy and Revival of Rice Export Corporation

KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Sindh President Nisar Ahmed Khuhro has reaffirmed his party's firm opposition to any attempt to roll back the 18th Constitutional Amendment, emphasizing that unilateral changes to the Constitution will not be accepted.

Speaking at a press conference in his office at the Sindh Assembly alongside PAC member Qasim Soomro, Khuhro said the 18th Amendment was unanimously passed with the consensus of all political parties and has become an integral part of the Constitution that even dictators could not undo.

He said the PPP will review the proposed 27th Amendment in its Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting on November 6 before taking a final position, stressing that the draft should be made public.Khuhro also urged the federal government to fix a fair support price for paddy and rice, revive the Rice Export Corporation, and address the ongoing economic distress faced by farmers across Sindh.—RT

Maritime Minister Junaid Anwar Urges Investors to Tap Pakistan's Shipping Industry Potential

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar has called on the business community to invest in Pakistan's shipping and maritime sector, emphasizing its vast potential amid growing global trade volumes.

Speaking during his visit to the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) on Tuesday, the Minister invited entrepreneurs to submit viable business proposals for utilizing Karachi Port Trust's (KPT) land. "We have 140 acres available to jointly develop an Industrial Park," he said, adding that the government welcomes both local and foreign investors to participate in creating Pakistan's most modern terminal.Junaid Anwar assured that the Ministry of Maritime Affairs will stand by the business community and fully support its legitimate concerns. Highlighting challenges faced by the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC), he announced plans to expand its fleet by 50 percent, with five new vessels in the pipeline.

Sindh Secretariat Plunges into Darkness After Cable Theft by Drug Addicts

KARACHI: A major power outage struck the Sindh Secretariat after drug addicts allegedly stole electric cables worth millions of rupees, plunging several key departments into darkness.

According to reports, the stolen cables caused a complete suspension of electricity supply to important departments, including the Home Department, Agriculture Department, and Planning and Development Department. The theft also disrupted the generator backup system, leaving the entire Secretariat without power.The blackout has severely affected official work, causing inconvenience to both visiting citizens and government officers. Authorities have launched an investigation into the incident to trace those involved and to restore power to the Sindh Secretariat at the earliest.—RT/Agency

Disturbing Trend: Over 600 Child Abuse Cases Reported in Sindh in Early 2025, Reveals SSDO

KARACHI: The Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO) has revealed in its latest report that 604 cases of violence against children were reported across Sindh between January and June this year.According to the report, the cases included 253 incidents of abduction, 127 of trafficking, 106 of underage marriage, 75 of sexual abuse, 16 of physical violence, 15 of forced labor, 10 of murder, and two cases of child begging. The findings indicate a worrying rise in child abuse incidents across the province, with an average of four children falling victim to violence every day.SSDO has urged the Sindh government, law enforcement agencies, and child protection authorities to strengthen child protection units and district-level monitoring systems to ensure the safety and welfare of children across the province.—RT

REGIONAL TIMES

SPORTS

Haris Rauf Suspended After Controversial Asia Cup Gesture

LAHORE: Pakistan fast bowler Haris Rauf will miss the first two ODIs against South Africa on November 4 and 6 after the ICC sanctioned multiple players for Code of Conduct breaches during the Asia Cup. Rauf, responding to Indian fan heckling, made a 6-0 hand signal and gestures referencing the India-Pakistan military conflict. Sahibzada Farhan was also reprimanded for mimicking a gunshot to celebrate his fifty. The ICC confirmed these disciplinary actions in a press release on Tuesday.—RT

REGIONAL TIMES

GLOBAL WATCH

David Beckham Knighted by King Charles in Glamorous Windsor Ceremony

UK: Soccer legend David Beckham was knighted by King Charles at Windsor Castle on Tuesday, honoring his decades-long impact on sport and charitable causes. The 50-year-old former England captain, already a royal honoree, received the accolade dressed in a suit designed by wife Victoria Beckham, former Spice Girl and fashion icon. The ceremony featured a warm exchange between Beckham and the king, who shared smiles and laughter, marking a glittering moment in the football star's illustrious life.—RT

SCINOSA Goes Global! Houston Brunch Shines Light on Pakistan's Trailblazing Special Needs Institute

TEXAS: SCINOSA (Society for Children In Need of Special Assistance), Pakistan's leading institute for children with Down Syndrome and intellectual disabilities, hosted its first international Awareness Brunch in Houston, Texas. The sold-out event, attended by philanthropist Jimmy Engineer and global community leaders, highlighted SCINOSA's six-decade legacy of education, therapy, and empowerment. Trustee Rahat Khan called it a "dream come true," marking SCINOSA's formal international outreach to spread inclusivity, compassion, and hope worldwide.

METRO KARACHI

Sindh Minister Ali Hassan Zardari Inspects Malir Prison, Applauds Improved Facilities

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: Sindh Provincial Minister for Jails, Haji Ali Hassan Zardari, conducted a surprise visit to District Jail Malir and expressed satisfaction with the arrangements. Jail Superintendent Fahim Anwar Memon and Deputy Superintendent Adnan Jatoi briefed him on administration, prisoner facilities, security, and rehabilitation programs. The Minister reviewed the prisoner meeting area, spoke with inmates and their families, and observed the online court video link system. He also inspected the jail kitchens, appreciating the food quality. Zardari praised the administration's efforts and directed that all basic facilities be provided according to law.

Hamdard University Clinches Indoor Inter-University Cricket Championship Title

By Dildar Seelro

KARACHI: Hamdard University emerged champions of the Futflick Indoor Inter-University Cricket Tournament, held at Futflick Indoor Cricket Club. The team won all four earlier rounds, defeating BZD University by 31 runs in the quarter-final and MIT-E University by completing a 35-run target in 3.5 overs during the semi-final. In the final against Iqra University, Hamdard chased a 21-run target in just 2.2 overs to claim the trophy. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Imran Amin congratulated the team, praising captain Abdul Rehman Rao, coach Muhammad Zada, director Shariyar Pasha, and manager Hamza Yamin for their dedication and efforts.

Rasoolabad Gathering Calls for Unity and Collective Development Vision

By Dildar Seelro

KARACHI: A key meeting was held in Khair Muhammad Tanwri village, UC Rasoolabad, to address local issues and development. Chaired by social leader Ali Dino Tanwri, prominent residents discussed challenges and project progress. Ali Dino emphasized that unity and cooperation are essential for regional progress, urging locals to resolve differences and work together for the village's development and a better future for the youth.

Karachi Police Chief Reveals Over 1,200 Houses Demolished in Afghan Settlement

KARACHI: Karachi Police Chief Javed Alam Odho has revealed that more than 1,200 houses have been demolished in the Afghan settlement, adding that most Afghan residents have already left the area.

Speaking to the media at the Sindh High Court, Odho dismissed reports about the relocation of Afghan nationals to other parts of the city, stating that such claims hold no truth.Responding to a question regarding the ongoing anti-encroachment drive, the Karachi Police Chief clarified that the police's role is limited to providing security.—RT/Agency

Governor Kamran Tessori Applauds Pakistan's Tech Leap at PIMEC-2025 Drone Show

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori visited the Drone Show at the PIMEC-2025 Expo held at the Karachi Expo Centre, where he was briefed on drone-jamming systems and advanced technological innovations showcased at the event.

Speaking to the media, Governor Tessori said Pakistan is entering a new era of progress, with international experts and organizations participating in the four-day global expo. He congratulated the Chief of Naval Staff and event organizer Zohaib Naseer of Badar Expo Solutions for successfully hosting the exhibition.—RT/Agency

Customs Thwart Smuggling Bid, Seize Iranian Diesel Worth Over Rs20 Million Off Karachi's Coast

KARACHI: The Marine Unit of Pakistan Customs successfully foiled an attempt to smuggle Iranian high-speed diesel worth more than Rs20 million through the sea route near Hajamoro Creek in the eastern sector of Keti Bunder.

According to media reports, the Customs Enforcement teams conducted a coordinated operation, intercepting two wooden launches carrying approximately 31,610 liters of smuggled high-speed diesel. The launches and the seized fuel were taken into custody.

Officials said the successful operation reflects the enhanced vigilance and professional capability of the Pakistan Customs Enforcement Collectorate, which continues its crackdown on fuel smuggling and other illegal cross-border trade activities.—RT/Agency

Traffic Police Launch Night Crackdown on Headlight-Less Vehicles Amid Karachi Blackouts

KARACHI: The Karachi traffic police have launched a campaign to fine vehicles operating without functional headlights, citing safety concerns and the need to prevent nighttime accidents. Dozens of motorists have reportedly been ticketed in recent days, particularly along major city routes.

However, citizens have criticized the move, pointing out the irony that many of Karachi's main roads — including M.A. Jinnah Road, Shahrah-e-Faisal, and Korangi Industrial Area — remain without proper street lighting for months. Motorists argue that driving in complete darkness not only poses risks to drivers and pedestrians but also increases incidents of street crime.—RT/Agency

Jam Ikram Promises Transparent, Fast-Track Industrial Growth Under Sindh's Sustainable Agenda

KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Industries and Commerce, Jam Ikramullah Dharejo, visited the SITE Karachi area to review progress on PSDP development projects. Accompanied by Secretary Industries Muhammad Yaseen Baloch Shar and SITE officials, he was briefed on ongoing works and challenges. Dharejo directed authorities to ensure full transparency, speed up implementation, and maintain coordination with local administration. He stressed that timely completion of industrial projects is a top Sindh Government priority, reaffirming commitment to sustainable industrial development and a stronger provincial economy.—RT

Sindh Leads in Women and Child Protection — CM Murad Hosts Punjab Lawmakers for Policy Exchange

KARACHI: Sindh CM Syed Murad Ali Shah met Punjab parliamentarians, organized by UNFPA, to showcase Sindh's progressive laws on women and child protection. Highlighting landmark legislation—Child Protection Authority Act 2011, Child Marriages Restraint Act 2013, Domestic Violence Act 2013, Women Agricultural Workers Act 2019, and Hindu Marriage Act 2016—he stressed enforcement, awareness, and collaboration with civil society. Punjab legislators and UNFPA lauded Sindh's model framework, emphasizing its potential as a blueprint for gender justice, minority rights, and social empowerment across Pakistan.—RT

KATI Sounds Alarm Over Rs28bn Power Shock as Karachi Industries Reject NEPRA Surcharge

KARACHI: Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI) President Muhammad Ikram Rajput has condemned NEPRA and the Power Division for imposing Rs28 billion in Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) and Fuel Cost Component (FCC) charges on K-Electric consumers for FY 2023-24. Calling the move "unjust and destructive," he said industries are being burdened despite a pending Rs33 billion relief package. Rajput warned the surcharge could cripple Karachi's industrial base, urging authorities to withdraw the decision and release the promised relief funds immediately.—RT

40 Couples Tie the Knot in COPE's Heartwarming Mass Wedding

KARACHI: COPE Organization hosted a grand mass wedding in Karachi, where 40 deserving couples tied the knot with dignity under the supervision of Chairperson Ms. Nusrat and General Secretary Ms. Rehana, who traveled from the UK for the event. Ms. Nusrat emphasized COPE's mission to uplift underprivileged families through compassionate initiatives, including housing for flood victims and orphan sponsorships. Supported by Islamic Help, the ceremony featured gifts, dowry packs, and heartfelt prayers, earning praise from Mufti Muhammad Asim Siddiqi for COPE's humanitarian dedication.—RT

Gas Thieves Cornered: SSGC Raids Across Sindh and Balochistan, One Arrested and FIRs Filed

KARACHI: Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) intensified its crackdown on gas theft across Sindh and Balochistan, conducting multiple raids in Karachi and Quetta. In Quetta, Somair s/o Muhammad Tahir was caught red-handed stealing gas from SSGC's main line and arrested. Raids in Karachi uncovered illegal connections at bakeries, a cattle farm, a plastic moulding unit, and a dyeing factory. Several culprits were found using suction compressors and tampered meters. FIRs have been registered against all offenders as SSGC vows zero tolerance for gas theft.—RT

Sharjeel Rolls Out Phase 2 of Pink Scooty Scheme to Empower Sindh's Women

KARACHI: Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon announced the upcoming second phase of the Pink Scooties program, urging women to register, join training courses, and obtain driving licenses. The initiative provides free training, licenses, and Scooties to female students and working women, easing daily commuting. Following the first phase's overwhelming success, Memon emphasized the government's commitment to women's safety, education, and professional mobility. Projects like Pink Scooties, Pink Bus Service, and Electric Bus Service reflect PPP's vision of social and economic empowerment for women.—RT

Sindh Aims to Register 5 Million Workers — Saeed Ghani Unveils Historic Labour Welfare Drive

KARACHI: Sindh Labour Minister Saeed Ghani announced an ambitious plan to register over five million workers under the province's social protection network during a meeting with an Asian Development Bank delegation in Karachi. Highlighting Sindh's lead in labour rights, he noted the province's pioneering labour cards, home-based worker laws, and SESSI coverage for 650,000 employees. Ghani said registered workers would receive free healthcare and education, while key welfare bodies would be unified for better coordination. He reaffirmed PPP's unwavering commitment to workers' dignity and welfare.—RT

Pakistan Powers Toward Green Revolution: Malik Group & Fossil Energy Partner for National EV Charging Network

KARACHI: In a landmark move for Pakistan's green mobility, Malik Group of Companies and Fossil Energy & Petroleum signed an MoU in Karachi to install Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations at all Fossil Energy fuel stations nationwide. Malik Khuda Baksh, Chairman of Malik Group, and Shehzad Mohsin, CEO of Fossil Energy, led the signing. Backed by Chinese partners ADM Group, the initiative aims to boost EV adoption—projected to exceed 30% by 2030—creating a unified, sustainable, and energy-resilient transport ecosystem across Pakistan.—RT

Sindh Declares Citywide Anti-Dengue Emergency Drive Across Karachi and Hyderabad

KARACHI: Under Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah's directives, Sindh is intensifying dengue control measures across the province. Karachi has completed fumigation in 150 Union Councils, while Hyderabad identified 30 hotspot councils, conducting 2,241 fumigation rounds, IRS in over 17,000 rooms, and clearing 229 water sites. Awareness sessions reached 3,698 residents, and 340 hospital beds are reserved for dengue patients. Authorities continue 24/7 monitoring, urging citizens to maintain hygiene. The government vows full coverage of all high-risk areas to curb the dengue threat.—RT

SSUET Innovators Shine at Maritime Expo with Cutting-Edge Student Projects

KARACHI: Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology (SSUET) stole the spotlight at the Pakistan International Maritime Expo, showcasing nine innovative student projects including SoulPure, Safe Wear, RAFT, and IoTFIY. Delegates from Indonesia, Kenya, UAE, and South Africa praised the creative solutions aimed at sustainability, safety, and technological advancement. Chancellor Muhammad Akbar Ali Khan and Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Afzal Haq lauded the students' ingenuity, highlighting their potential to shape Pakistan's maritime and tech future. SSUET also signed an MoU with Dreams Network & Technology for joint research and youth development.—RT

Baba Guru Nanak: Symbol of Love and Harmony — PPP Pledges Service to Humanity

KARACHI: At Swami Narayan Gurdwara, Karachi, the Sindh Ministry of Religious and Minority Affairs marked Baba Guru Nanak's 556th birth anniversary with a financial aid ceremony for deserving Sikh families. Chief Guest Dr. Sham Sunder K. Advani hailed Guru Nanak as a symbol of love, peace, and interfaith harmony. He reaffirmed PPP's commitment, under Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's leadership, to uplift minority communities and fulfill the vision of its martyred leaders. —RT

Tragic Malir Crash: Dumper Mows Down Motorcyclists, One Killed

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: A tragic accident near Liaquatabad Hospital Chowk in Malir left one motorcyclist dead and another injured. A speeding dumper struck two young riders, killing 20-year-old Kashan, son of Muhammad Akmal, on the spot, while 19-year-old Javed, son of Muhammad Rafiq, was seriously injured and shifted to Jinnah Hospital. Police say the dumper driver remains at large, and an investigation is ongoing. Eyewitnesses reported that the vehicle was moving at high speed, causing sudden chaos and temporary traffic disruption in the area.

It always seems impossible until it's done."

—Nelson Mandela

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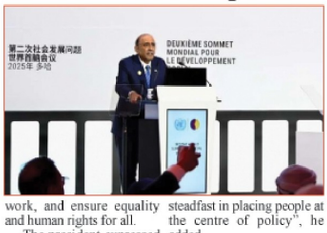
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 05 2025

President Zardari Calls For Radical Global Financial Reforms And Debt Relief To Empower Developing Nations



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday called for comprehensive global financial reforms, including debt relief and equitable taxation, to enable developing countries to pursue social justice and sustainable development.

Addressing the Second World Summit for Social Development, he said existing international financial structures place disproportionate burdens on poorer nations, limiting their ability to invest in people-centric progress.

He reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to social justice, inclusive development, and global solidarity, emphasising the need to eradicate poverty, promote decent work, and ensure equality and human rights for all.

The president expressed full support for the Doha Political Declaration, highlighting that the country's vision for inclusiveness and sustainable development aligns with the spirit of the Doha Declaration. "Pakistan remains steadfast in placing people at the centre of policy", he added.

Showcasing Pakistan's progress, he cited the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), which has empowered over nine million families through income assistance, healthcare, and education. The initiative, he said, "is recognised globally as one of the best social protection models."

He reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), pledging to raise literacy to 90% and ensure every child attends school within five years.

The president also mentioned initiatives such as the National Youth Internship Programme and green and resilient housing projects, which aim to empower youth and strengthen climate resilience through nature-based solutions like mangrove restoration.

President Zardari also expressed grave concern over the "weaponisation of water" and violations of the Indus Waters Treaty, calling them a "serious threat" to the livelihoods of 240 million Pakistanis.He also condemned the genocide, apartheid, and mass starvation in Palestine, calling for a just and lasting peace. He reiterated Pakistan's unwavering support for the people of Kashmir, linking both struggles as two sides of the same coin in the pursuit of justice and self-determination."Development must begin and end with the betterment of people," Zardari said, adding: "We must rise above all differences to embark on a path of compassion and progress for all."—RT/Agency

Pakistan Scraps Eni LNG Cargoes, Seeks Fresh Terms With Qatar In Energy Reboot

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has struck a deal to cancel 21 liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes under its long-term contract with Italy's Eni as part of a plan to curb excess imports that have flooded its gas network, according to an official document and two sources.

The document from state-owned Pakistan LNG Ltd (PLL) to the country's Ministry of Energy, dated October 22, said 11 cargoes planned for 2026 and 10 for 2027 would be cancelled at the request of gas distributor SNGPL.

Only the planned January shipment in both years, and the December shipment in 2027, would be retained to meet peak winter demand, according to the document, reviewed by Reuters.

Two sources familiar with the matter in Pakistan said that Eni had agreed to the move under the contract's flexibility provisions. LNG is in strong demand globally, and suppliers typically stand to earn more by selling cargoes in the spot market than under long-term contracts.

Eni declined to comment. PLL, SNGPL, and Pakistan's petroleum ministry did not reply to requests for comment.

Talks to renegotiate supplies from Qatar

PLL's move marks one of Pakistan's most significant steps yet to rein in LNG purchases as rising renewable generation and lower industrial demand leave it with surplus imported gas.

Eni signed a long-term LNG supply deal with PLL in 2017, committing to deliver one cargo per month until 2032, with the option to divert shipments to other destinations.—RT/Agency

Pakistan And Iran Seal New Media Cooperation Deals To Strengthen Regional Narratives

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Iran signed multiple Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to strengthen cooperation in the media sector.

The signing ceremony was attended by Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, Iran Broadcasting Vice President Ahmad Norozi, and PTV Executive Director Fatima Sheikh.

During the event, MoUs were signed between Pakistan Television (PTV) and Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), as well as between PEMRA and Iran's regulatory authority.

Additionally, agreements were inked between Iranian media outlets and three private Pakistani institutions.

Minister Tarar presented souvenirs to members of the Iranian delegation and said that Pakistan-Iran media cooperation would enhance bilateral relations and strengthen people-to-people ties.

He highlighted the positive outcomes of Iranian President Pezeshkian's visit to Pakistan, which began with his homage at the mausoleum of Allama Iqbal in Lahore — a symbol of deep-rooted brotherly relations between the two nations.—RT/Agency

Vawda Threatens Crackdown If PTI Marches On November 26

ISLAMABAD: Senator Faisal Vawda said that if the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) holds a protest in Islamabad on 26 November, strict action will be taken.

Speaking on media programme "Nadeem Malik Live", he added that a ban and the option of Governor's Rule are under consideration if the PTI moves ahead with the demonstration.

Vawda said that nothing significant is expected to happen for PTI founder this year. He said that if the current political approach continues, the founder will face more difficulties.

He said that a group led by Shah Mahmood Qureshi holds no influence, though Qureshi is innocent in connection with the 9 May incidents. Vawda added that he regards Omar Sarfraz Cheema and Shibli Faraz as "good people".

The senator said that both Omar Sarfraz Cheema and Shibli Faraz should be released if they are put on trial.—RT/Agency

Raza Rabbani Slams Proposed 27th Amendment As 'Assault On Provincial Autonomy'

ISLAMABAD: Former Senate chairman Raza Rabbani on Tuesday warned that the 27th Constitutional Amendment, proposed by the federal government, would be tantamount to rolling back the provincial autonomy achieved under the 18th Amendment.

"In the brittle internal political situation, playing with provincial autonomy will cast deep shadows over the Federation," Rabbani, a senior leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), said in a statement.

The ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) formally approached its key ally — PPP — for their support in introducing the amendment, which would establish a Constitutional Court, and make certain changes to the National Finance Commission (NFC) Award.

This tweak also sought to amend Article 243 — which pertains to the supreme command of the armed forces — as well as several other key constitutional adjustments, according to PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

Other proposals included the introduction of executive magistrates, provisions for the transfer of judges, and the removal of protections related to provincial shares in the NFC Award.—RT/Agency

Zardari Cautions India: 'Don't Turn Water Into A Weapon Of War'

DOHA: President Asif Ali Zardari delivered a powerful address at the United Nations World Conference on Social Development in Doha, where he warned that India is using water as a weapon against Pakistan and urged the international community to uphold justice, peace, and equality.

He said that the violation of the Indus Waters Treaty poses a serious threat to 240 million Pakistanis, emphasizing that such actions amount to depriving an entire nation of water, which cannot be tolerated. "We will never allow such pressure tactics to succeed," he declared.

The president accused India of deliberately violating international law by breaching the Indus Waters Treaty, calling it a direct threat to regional stability."Water is now being used as a weapon against Pakistan. Violating the treaty means depriving millions of Pakistanis of their right to water," he said, reiterating that Pakistan would resist any such attempt that undermines its sovereignty and the livelihood of its people.—RT/Agency

Stolen Treasures Return: Italy Hands Back Ancient Artefacts To Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: A collection of ancient artefacts recovered in Italy has been returned to Pakistan, marking the latest phase in a years-long effort to restore cultural heritage items illegally taken from the country, Pakistan's Embassy in Rome said on Tuesday.

According to a press release, the artefacts — belonging to the prehistoric Kuli and Naal cultures of Balochistan and dating back nearly 5,000 years — arrived in Pakistan from Rome on October 30, 2025.

A separate consignment returned from Milan earlier this year.

The embassy said nearly 100 culturally significant pieces have been recovered and handed over to Pakistani authorities in Italy over the past 18 years. Seven of those artefacts were formally returned to the Consulate General in Milan in April 2025.—RT/Agency

Overseas Ministry Rebukes FIA Over 'Grade-18' Travel Rule Uproar

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis has slammed the FIA's controversial move requiring attestation by a Grade-18 officer for Pakistanis traveling abroad. Terming the rule "unacceptable," Federal Minister Chaudhry Salik Hussain warned it would burden overseas workers vital to the economy. The ministry asserted that citizens with valid Protector Certificates can travel freely, emphasizing the government's resolve to safeguard fundamental rights and prevent unnecessary restrictions on overseas Pakistanis.-RT

US Shutdown Crisis Hits 35 Days — Longest In History, Millions Left Struggling

WASHINGTON DC: The US government shutdown has tied the record for the longest in history, entering its 35th day amid deep partisan deadlock. Essential services and food aid have halted, leaving 42 million Americans without support and millions of federal workers unpaid. As Republicans and Democrats trade blame, the economy faces mounting losses, with the Congressional Budget Office warning the standoff could cost $11 billion if it continues another week.-RT

UN Warns: World On Track To Blow Past 1.5°C Climate Limit Within A Decade

NEW YORK: The United Nations Environment Programme has warned that the world will overshoot the 1.5°C global warming target within the next decade due to sluggish emission cuts. Its Emissions Gap Report revealed that current policies would push temperatures up by as much as 2.8°C. Lead author Anne Olhoff said the overshoot is now "unavoidable," urging drastic, immediate action ahead of the COP30 summit to avert worsening climate disasters worldwide.-RT

Trump Rattles U.S. Politics Again — Backs Cuomo, Warns Of Funding Cut To NYC If Mamdani Wins

US President Donald Trump endorsed former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo for mayor of New York City on Monday and threatened to hold back federal funds to the city if Democratic candidate Zohran Mamdani wins the mayoral election on Tuesday.

Trump, a Republican who has offered frequent commentary on the New York mayoral election, injected himself further into the race by crossing party lines to support Cuomo over Mamdani and the Republican candidate, Curtis Sliwa, who trails badly in public opinion polls in the heavily Democratic city.

Cuomo, a longtime stalwart in the Democratic Party, is running as an independent after losing to Mamdani in the Democratic primary.

Tuesday's New York City election has been closely watched nationally as one that could help shape the image of the Democratic Party as it seeks its identity in opposition to Trump.

Mamdani, 34, a self-described democratic socialist who is leading Cuomo in the polls, has energised younger and more progressive voters, but he has also alarmed more moderate Democrats who fear a shift too far to the left may backfire.Republicans have attacked Mamdani's candidacy throughout the campaign, with Trump casting him as a communist.—RT/Agency

PTI Calls 'Peace Jirga' In KP Assembly To Tackle Spiralling Law And Order Crisis

PESHAWAR: The PTI has announced a major peace jirga at the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on November 12 to address the province's deteriorating security situation. Chaired by Chief Minister Sohail Afridi and PTI KP President Junaid Akbar, the meeting decided to unite all political parties, civil society, and bar associations under one platform for peace. Leaders, including Mehmood Khan Achakzai and Allama Raja Nasir Abbas, have been invited to build consensus for stability.-RT

Grim Report: Pakistan Falls To 130th In Global Rule Of Law Index Rankings

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has fallen one rank in the latest World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index, ranking 130th out of 143 countries in the 2025 global report released this week.

The index measures how effectively countries uphold laws, ensure accountability, and protect fundamental rights. According to the report, Pakistan continues to face challenges in judicial independence, enforcement of legal decisions, and constraints on government powers.

Denmark, Norway, Finland top rankingsAt the top of the list, Denmark, Norway, and Finland were once again named the most law-abiding nations in the world. These Scandinavian countries have consistently ranked highest for strong justice systems, transparent governance, and low levels of corruption.

The report notes that New Zealand and nine European countries are also among the top ten nations in the rule of law rankings, underscoring Europe's continued leadership in governance and legal integrity.UK, US show contrasting positionsAmong major global powers, the United Kingdom ranked 14th, while the United States stood at 27th, according to the World Justice Project.Although both nations remain in the upper half of the index, the report highlights that even well-established democracies are showing signs of erosion in judicial independence and civic space compared to previous years.

Global rule of law declinesThe 2025 report reveals a widespread global decline in the rule of law, with 68% of countries showing weaker performance than the previous year.—RT/Agency

JUI Leader Assassinated In Charsadda Ambush

CHARSADDA: Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam (JUI) provincial council member Hafiz Maulana Abdul Salam Arif was shot dead by unidentified motorcyclists in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Charsadda district on Tuesday, according to a police officer.According to Investigating Officer (IO) Safdar Khan, the JUI member was on his way home after offering prayers at a mosque when he was attacked by two armed suspects on a motorcycle."The incident is being investigated from all possible angles," the IO said. "Police have collected evidence from the crime scene and have also called in a team of experts to provide assistance."The IO added that the victim's son filed a case with the Mandani police station.In addition to being a provincial council member, the slain Abdul Salam was the head of Madressah Abu Bakar Siddique in Tehsil Tangi and the preacher at a mosque within the area of the Jamalabad Dairy Farm.In July this year, Awami National Party politician Maulana Khan Zeb and a policeman were shot dead by unidentified suspects in KP's Bajaur district, according to the police.—RT/Agency

TLP Rift Explodes: Punjab, Lahore Leadership Breaks Away From Banned Party

ISLAMABAD: Ticket holders and office bearers of the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) from central Punjab and Lahore on Tuesday announced that they were severing ties with the now-banned organisation, stating that they were "standing with the state".

On Friday, all election ticket holders of the TLP from south Punjab announced that they had left the party, accusing it of pursuing an anti-state agenda that "aligns with the country's enemies".

In a press conference at the Lahore Press Club today, multiple TLP ticket holders and office bearers announced their decision to step away from the religiopolitical group, with lawyer Usman Khizr Mangat saying that one can engage in politics within the state, but not against it.

"Violence and mobs cannot create an impact by attacking the state," he said. "Pakistan saw how these people carried out attacks. The government tried to start a dialogue, but the demands laid out were not accepted.

"The state is like a mother, it tried to negotiate for six, seven days constantly with these people (the TLP) and outlined Pakistan's situation and its standing in the international community."

Mangat noted that the unrest took place at a time when the country is "on red alert because of India in the east and Afghanistan in the northwest".

"You saw that buses were stolen, people were armed and school buses carrying girls were hijacked. What kind of politics is this?" he questioned."Other parties protest under the Constitution and the law; they have the right to freedom of movement and freedom of speech, but you cannot exercise those rights at the cost of causing unrest within the state."—RT/Agency

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