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20-year-old bikes, autos included in PM fuel relief scheme

News Desk

ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif has directed the immediate inclusion of 20-year-old motorcycles, rickshaws and Chingchi rickshaws in the Prime Minister's Fuel Relief Scheme.

Under the decision, all motorcycles, rickshaws and Chingchi rickshaws registered before January 1, 2006, will be eligible for registration under the scheme, allowing operators of these vehicles to benefit from the relief program.

Meanwhile, Ministry of IT said more than one million registrations have been completed so far under the Prime Minister's Fuel Relief Scheme, while over 800,000 tokens have been generated nationwide. According to the ministry, real-time monitoring of the scheme across the country is being carried out through a 24-hour control room. Punjab and Islamabad are leading in terms of token redemption, the ministry said, adding that the relief scheme is benefiting deserving people across the country.



15 cops among 21 martyred, over 100 injured in Kohat Police Lines explosion

STAFF REPORTER

KOHAT

At least 21 people, including 15 police officials, were martyred and 103 others injured after explosions targeted a mosque inside Kohat Police Lines during Friday prayer, Kohat Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr Tahir Shah confirmed, prompting condemnation from the country's top leadership.

The deceased include 15 police personnel and six civilians, the medical superintendent said. Among those killed was Dr Israel Khan Orakzai, Chief District Specialist at Liaquat Memorial Hospital, he added. Of the 103 injured, 73 are police personnel, and 30 are civilians, according to the MS. 90 of the injured were brought to the District Headquarters (DHQ) Hospital, while 13 were taken to Liaquat Memorial Hospital. Dr Shah said 34 injured people remain under treatment at the hospitals, while four critically injured patients have been referred to hospitals in Peshawar for further medical care.



No One's Legitimate Rights Should Be Denied: AJK PM

■ Kashmiris Have Carried the Banner of Freedom for 79 Years: PM Gilani Hails Shahzad Rathore's Book on Partition and Kashmir Issue

STAFF REPORTER

MUZAFFARABAD

The first meeting of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Cabinet was held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Barrister Iftikhar Gilani, with the meeting reviewing key matters related to education, recruitment, business facilitation and governance. The cabinet constituted a three-member committee to review the Education Package 2026. Ministers Waqar Ahmed Noor, Azhar Sadiq and Umair Naem have been made members of the committee. The cabinet was also briefed on the Teacher Recruitment Policy and the Ease of Doing Business Act 2026. Addressing the meeting,

Prime Minister Iftikhar Gilani said the government's priority was to create ease for the people and restore their confidence in state institutions. He stressed that the cabinet and bureaucracy must work together to improve governance and public service delivery. "The people can be represented better by political representatives than anyone else," the prime minister said, directing all departments to amend their rules in accordance with the third-party recruitment law. He said recruitment through third parties would be carried out strictly on the basis of merit, competence and capability. The prime minister directed that a complaints desk be established at the Prime Minister's Office until the public complaints portal becomes fully operational. He said

improving governance did not require additional financial resources alone, but a change in attitude and working methods. "The attitude towards governance will have to change at all costs," he said, adding that those unwilling to support the government's efforts would not be able to remain part of its team. Prime Minister Gilani said the government would work in accordance with the vision of Nawaz Sharif, Shehbaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz, and directed district administrations to take all possible measures to facilitate citizens. He emphasized that no one's legitimate rights should be denied under any circumstances and directed the authorities to resolve people's issues, including land-related matters, without (Continued on Page-4)

Pakistan will go 'to any extent' to defend Saudi Arabia, vows ISPR DG

■ Islamabad's commitment extends to Makkah and Madinah's protection, says Lt Gen Chaudhry

MUDASSAR IQBAL

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's armed forces have pledged to go "to any extent" to defend Saudi Arabia, with the military's chief spokesperson saying Islamabad's commitment to Riyadh's security was "unconditional".

"Pakistan fully stands with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, both diplomatically and physically," Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director-General Lt Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said in an interview with Arab News on

Thursday. His remarks come amid attacks by Yemen's Houthi militia on Saudi cities, as the spreading Middle East war created new threats to global oil supplies.

Saudi Arabia's civil defence said a Yemeni living in Saudi Arabia had been killed by debris from a drone intercepted over the western city of Taif, the first death Riyadh has announced in repeated Houthi attacks since fighting escalated last week. It has previously said more than 80 people were wounded.

The ISPR chief reiterated that Pakistan's commitment to Saudi Arabia



extends to the protection of Makkah and Madinah, saying "we are present there to protect Haramain Sharifain". "There should be no doubt on that," he said, adding that Pakistan will continue to defend Saudi Arabia against any aggression.

aggression.

Lt Gen Chaudhry maintained that Islamabad's commitment to the kingdom's security was "unconditional", saying "it stems from an emotive, deep-rooted, historical and unbreakable bond" between the two states. Discussing the regional situation and Pakistan's efforts for peace in the Middle East, the military's spokesperson said that Islamabad was in contact with regional states to seek "a negotiated and peaceful outcome" to the conflict. Pakistan emerged as a key mediator in the Middle East conflict after the US and Israel launched coordinated attacks against Iran on February 28.

PTI Islamabad march: Organisers to be responsible for any loss of life, warns security czar

■ Interior minister says Islamabad High Court verdict leaves no room for protest



STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Friday warned that the government would stop anyone from marching on Islamabad "in every possible way", holding those bringing protesters to the capital responsible for any loss of life during the demonstration.

The security czar's warning came shortly after the Islamabad High Court (IHC), in its 37-page detailed verdict, ruled that no

political party has the lawful right to occupy public roads, highways or buildings, in a petition against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) planned long march to Islamabad on September 27.

Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, Naqvi said the IHC verdict left no room for an attempt to "storm Islamabad", adding that anyone violating the verdict would face contempt of court proceedings.

"If someone comes out after the court's decision, we will first initiate contempt of court proceedings. Otherwise, we will not allow anyone to come out," the minister said,

adding that the provinces had also been informed.

Referring to discussions on social media about people from a particular tribe coming to Islamabad, Naqvi said: "Political activity is one thing, while arriving in the form of armed mobs is quite another."

"You should certainly protest, but do so in your own area and city," he said, adding that peaceful protests should be held in the respective provinces.

The security czar said Islamabad could not be shut down, nor could attacks be allowed in the name of protest.

Naqvi said the government was fighting terrorism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, urging attention to the fight against militancy instead of protests, gathering people or collecting funds. "It does not look good to carry the funerals of martyrs on one hand and prepare for a sit-in on the other," he said.

He added that if the chief minister prepared to confront terrorists with the same level of readiness as for a sit-in, terrorism could be reduced considerably. It is pertinent to mention here that at least 16 people, including five police officials, were martyred and more than 50 injured after explosions targeted a mosque inside Kohat Police Lines during Friday prayers, in KP.

10 India-sponsored militants killed in KP operations: ISPR

■ Six soldiers martyred after IED struck security forces convoy on Sep 17, says military's media wing

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Security forces killed 10 militants belonging to the India-sponsored Fitna al-Khawarij in multiple engagements in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa between September 15 and 17, while six soldiers were martyred in an improvised explosive device (IED) attack, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Thursday.

According to the military's media wing, an intelligence-based operation was conducted in North Waziristan district following reports about the presence of militants in the area.

During the operation, security forces effectively engaged the militants' position, killing six members of Fitna al-Khawarij after an intense exchange of fire, the ISPR said.

In a separate encounter in Hangu district, security forces killed four more militants, bringing the total number of terrorists eliminated during the operations to 10.



The ISPR said weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the militants killed during the operations. The militants, it added, had been actively involved in numerous terrorist activities in the area. Meanwhile, an IED exploded on a security forces convoy on September 17, resulting in the martyrdom of six soldiers, according to the military's media wing.

Sanitisation operations are under way to eliminate any other militants who may still be present in the areas, the ISPR said.

The military said the counter-terrorism campaign under the vision of Azm-e-Istehkam, approved by the Federal Apex Committee on the National Action Plan, would continue at full pace.

No political party has right to occupy public roads, IHC rules in PTI long march case



STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has ruled that no political party has the lawful right to occupy public roads, highways, interchanges, toll plazas or buildings, in its detailed verdict on a petition against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) planned long march to Islamabad on September 27.

The 37-page verdict was issued by an IHC larger bench headed by Chief Justice Sardar Muhammad Sarfraz Dogar and comprising Justice Muhammad Azam Khan and Justice Muhammad Asif on Friday. "No political party, political leader, provincial government or public office holder has any lawful right to occupy any public roads, highways, interchanges, toll plazas, buildings or other such places within or leading to or out of the ICT, obstruct or in any manner hinder the free movement of the citizens, pursuit of trade, business or profession, access to medical facilities or educational institutions within the ICT," read the judgment. The IHC further ruled that any person, whether legal or natural, who undertakes any activity which results in violation of fundamental rights of the citizens within the federal capital will be deemed to have violated the Constitution and will be liable for the consequences stipulated under the law.



Motorcyclists crossing the railway track near the railway station while a train is approaching can lead to accidents and raises serious safety concerns

Protest Rally Held in Tando Adam Against Proposals to Divide Sindh

■ Pakistan Khasikhli Rajoni Ittehad calls for protection of Sindh's territorial, historical and cultural unity

News Desk

Sargodha

The Pakistan Khasikhli Rajoni Ittehad held a protest rally in Tando Adam on Friday against proposals for the possible division of Sindh and the creation of new provinces. Led by the alliance's district president, Sher Muhammad Khaskhali, the rally started from Muhammadi Chowk and culminated at the Press Club, where participants staged a demonstration. People from different walks of life and workers of the alliance took part in the rally. The protesters carried placards and raised slogans in support of the unity and territorial integrity of Sindh. Addressing the demonstration, Sher Muhammad Khaskhali, Sindh

Adabi Sangat secretary Muhammad Akhlaq Waryah, GR. Khaskhali, Wahid Bakhsh Khaskhali, Mola Bakhsh Khaskhali, Abdul Karim Junejo and other speakers said Sindh was not merely an administrative region but a land with thousands of years of history, civilisation, culture, language and identity. They said any proposal aimed at dividing Sindh or affecting its unity in the name of creating new provinces would not be acceptable to the people. They stressed that the historical, cultural and geographical unity of Sindh was a shared responsibility and that the views and concerns of its



people should be taken into consideration before any such step. The speakers said Sindh had historically provided a home to people belonging to different cultures and languages,

while its traditions of tolerance, pluralism and Sufi heritage remained central to its identity. They maintained that the people's attachment to the land, language, history and culture could not be diminished through administrative proposals or political slogans. They said the solution to Sindh's problems lay in addressing issues faced by the people, ensuring fair distribution of resources and improving education, healthcare and employment opportunities rather than pursuing measures that could create divisions. They said they would continue to raise their voice through peaceful and democratic means against any move that threatened the unity of Sindh. The protesters also raised slogans in support of the unity and territorial integrity of Sindh..

Advocate Parvez Shah Raises Kashmir Human Rights Concerns at UNHRC

■ APHC Secretary General highlights restrictions on expression, political participation and independent monitoring in Indian-administered

News Desk

Geneva, Switzerland

Advocate Parvez Shah, Secretary General APHC and representative of United Villages to UNHRC, today delivered a statement at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva under Agenda Item 3, drawing the Council's attention to the ongoing situation in Indian Administered Jammu and Kashmir. In his statement, he noted that the people of Jammu and Kashmir continue to seek the realization of their right to self-determination, a matter that has remained on the agenda of the United Nations for decades. The statement highlighted increasing restrictions on public expression, with peaceful gatherings facing heavy constraints. The voices of journalists, civil society members, and human rights defenders are being

limited, making it difficult to document and report developments on the ground. He expressed concern over the growing disempowerment of the Kashmiri people. Political space has been narrowed, local institutions weakened, and avenues for meaningful participation in decisions affecting daily life have been reduced, creating a deep sense of alienation and lack of agency among ordinary citizens. He emphasised that independent human rights organizations and international media continue to be denied access to the region. Combined with internet disruptions and



restrictions on press operations, this has created a wide information gap, with concerns related to detention conditions, freedom of movement, and public discourse not receiving adequate attention. Addressing the Council President, Advocate Shah stated: "When independent monitoring is not possible, information flows are restricted, and people are disempowered, it becomes harder for this Council and the international community to form a clear and balanced understanding of the situation. Transparency, inclusion, and open engagement are essential to build trust and to prevent further escalation of conflict and therefore warrants immediate intervention of this Council." He called on the Human Rights Council to ensure transparency and open engagement in the region.

Special Children's Artistic Talents Showcased at Exhibition in Sargodha

News Desk

Sargodha

A colorful ceremony featuring an exhibition of artwork and handicrafts created by special children was held at the Arts Council Sargodha under the auspices of the Special Education Department. Former Minister of State and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Chaudhry Hamid Hamid, MNA and "Daughter of Sargodha" Iram Hamid Hamid, and Deputy Commissioner Sargodha Hussain Ahmed Raza attended the ceremony as chief guests. A variety of beautiful artworks and handicrafts prepared by special children were displayed at the exhibition. The guests and participants highly appreciated the children's creative abilities, talent and hard work. The chief guests also distributed prizes and trophies among the special children who demonstrated



outstanding performance and encouraged them for their achievements. Speaking on the occasion, Chaudhry Hamid Hamid and MNA Iram Hamid Hamid appreciated the remarkable craftsmanship and creative work of the special children. They said that special children are a valuable part of society and that such activities provide them with an opportunity to showcase their abilities and build confidence. They assured the Special Education Department of their full cooperation in organizing more such events in the future to promote and encourage the talents of special children. The efforts of the children, teachers and organizers were also appreciated at the conclusion of the ceremony.



DIG visits CTD headquarters and CIA, reviews operations against criminals

News Desk

ISLAMABAD

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Islamabad Ali Waseem visited the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Headquarters and Crime Investigation Agency (CIA), reviewing their performance, professional matters and ongoing operations against criminal elements in the federal capital.

An official told APP on Friday that during the visit to CTD Headquarters, SSP CTD Saud Khan gave the DIG Ali a detailed briefing on the department's working, professional matters and various operational measures.

Ali directed CTD officers to further improve operations through an effective strategy and perform their professional responsibilities with dedication and efficiency.

During his visit to the CIA, the DIG Ali inspected the record room, lock-up and other sections. He also held an introductory meeting with CIA In-charge DSP Suleman Shah, the in-charge of the Anti-Vehicle Lifting Unit (AVLU) and investigation officers.

The meeting reviewed the CIA's overall performance, investigation work and ongoing operations against criminal elements.

The DIG Ali directed officers to launch effective and result-oriented action against active gangs involved in car and motorcycle theft and street robberies.



Polio campaign to be held in Sanghar district from Sept 21 to 24

News Desk

SANGHAR

) A special anti-polio campaign will be conducted in Sanghar district from Sept 21 to 24, targeting 513,000 children under five years of age, District Health Officer Dr Muhammad Farooq Arain said on Friday. Talking to Media, Dr Arain said more than 1,400 teams had been constituted for the campaign and would visit households to administer oral polio vaccine to children. He said 370 transit points and 87 fixed vaccination centres would also be established to ensure that no child was missed. He said training of the polio teams had been completed, while the cold-chain system had been rechecked and verified. Vaccines and other essential supplies had also been delivered to the relevant centres, he added. The DHO urged parents to ensure that all children below five years of age, including visiting children and children of domestic workers, were administered polio drops during the campaign. He said some children could temporarily miss vaccination because of fever or other medical reasons, but they were vaccinated once their health improved.



Pakistan Telecommunication Authority

PTA contacts QoS survey

News Desk

ISLAMABAD

:The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has published Quality of Service (QoS) Survey results for the second quarter of 2026 (April-June), covering Cities, Focused and Rural Areas, and Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJ&K) & Gilgit Baltistan (GB).

Conducted under the Cellular Mobile Network QoS Regulations 2021, the surveys evaluated all Cellular Mobile Operators (CMOs) against licensed KPIs for coverage, mobile broadband, voice, and SMS services. PTA field teams travelled extensively, testing approximately 27,300 voice calls and SMS with 0.19 million broadband samples in 11 major cities, 3,300 voice/SMS and 24,000 broadband samples in Focused and Rural Areas, and 4,100 voice/SMS with 3,960 broadband samples across six high altitude sites in AJ&K & GB.

The rural surveys highlighted critical digital inclusion gaps, identifying unclaimed coverage areas. Persistent challenges remain due to prolonged load shedding, theft and vandalism of telecom infrastructure, fiber cuts, RoW constraints, and security limitations in remote regions.

Pakistan Current Account Deficit Shrinks 70pc to \$98m in August

- SBP report reveals imports, exports and remittances shaped August's results



STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's current account deficit has dropped in a big way. New numbers from the State Bank of Pakistan show the gap fell close to 70 percent in August 2026, when compared to the same month last year. The deficit stood at just \$98 million in August. A year earlier, in August 2025, the figure was much higher at \$324 million. This is a clear sign of change in the country's money flow with the outside world.

There's more to the story, though. The July figure was quietly revised. It was first reported as \$328 million, but the updated number now shows \$445 million. This kind of change is normal in economic reporting, but it still matters for anyone tracking

trends closely.

Looking at the bigger picture, the first two months of the new fiscal year tell a good story too. From July to August, the total current account deficit came to \$543 million. That's a drop of 36 percent from last year's \$853 million over the same stretch. So, what pushed these numbers down? A few things helped. First, the trade gap in goods got smaller. It fell by around \$127 million from one month to the next, landing near \$3 billion.

During August, Pakistan brought in about \$5.5 billion worth of imports. At the same time, the country sent out \$2.5 billion in exports. The gap between these two numbers still exists, but it shrank compared to before.

Remittances also played a strong role. Money sent home by Pakistanis working abroad kept flowing in at a healthy pace. This steady inflow gave the external account a real boost.

Why does any of this matter to regular people? A smaller current account deficit often means less pressure on the rupee. It can also mean the central bank doesn't need to dip into foreign reserves as much. In simple terms, a lower deficit is usually good news for the wider economy.

Experts watching Pakistan's economy will likely keep an eye on the coming months. If imports stay controlled and remittances keep growing, the deficit could shrink further.



A vendor arranges fresh green grapes at a roadside stall to attract customers at a local market

Weekly inflation rises 0.49pc as fuel prices increase

- Pakistan's weekly inflation increased by 0.49 per cent as higher petrol, diesel and LPG prices pushed up costs, while several food items became cheaper.

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's weekly inflation increased by 0.49 per cent, with recent increases in petroleum product prices contributing to upward pressure on the prices of essential commodities, according to the latest data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

The weekly price report showed that out of 51 essential items monitored, prices of 19 increased, nine declined and 23 remained unchanged during the week.

Fuel prices recorded some of the largest increases during the



period. The price of diesel increased by 7.29pc, while petrol became 6.40pc more expensive and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) rose by 3.26pc. The increase in energy prices came alongside higher prices of several food products.

According to the report, garlic

became 1.94pc more expensive, while egg prices increased by 1.72pc during the week.

Prices of gram pulse, masoor pulse, moong pulse, bread, mustard oil and mutton also increased, although the figures provided did not specify the percentage change for each of

these commodities.

However, consumers received some relief from falling prices of several commonly used food items. The price of bananas declined by 6.17pc, followed by tomatoes by 5.66pc, onions by 4.57pc and chicken by 2.33pc during the week.

The figures indicate that while some fresh food items became cheaper, increases in petroleum products and other essential commodities kept overall weekly inflation under upward pressure. The PBS data also showed substantial year-on-year increases in several energy and food prices. On an annual basis, LPG prices increased by 60.42pc, while diesel was 54.21pc more expensive compared with the corresponding period last year.

20-year-old motorcycles, rickshaws made eligible for PM's fuel relief scheme

- Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed authorities to expand the fuel relief scheme, allowing motorcycles, rickshaws and Qingqi vehicles registered since January 2006 to qualify.

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed authorities to expand the PM Fuel Relief Scheme to include motorcycles, rickshaws and Qingqi rickshaws up to 20 years old, widening eligibility for the government's targeted fuel assistance programme.

According to details announced on Thursday, all motorcycles, rickshaws and Qingqi rickshaws registered on or after January 1, 2006, will be eligible for registration under the scheme, subject to its other applicable conditions.

The directive is expected to bring a larger number of older vehicles within the scope of the programme, particularly motorcycles and three-wheelers that are widely used for personal mobility and livelihood



purposes.

PM Shehbaz issued special instructions to facilitate the public by immediately including eligible older motorcycles, rickshaws and Qingqi vehicles in the programme.

Previously, owners of some older vehicles faced eligibility limitations under the scheme. The latest direction means vehicles

registered during the past two decades can now be considered for fuel relief.

The expansion comes as registrations under the Prime Minister's Fuel Relief Scheme have crossed one million, according to figures released separately by the Ministry of Information Technology. The ministry said more than

800,000 tokens had also been generated across Pakistan, while a 24-hour control room was carrying out real-time monitoring of the programme.

Under the government-approved fuel relief framework, eligible motorcycle and rickshaw users can receive Rs500 per week, while qualifying owners of cars with engine capacity of up to 800cc can receive Rs1,000 every 10 days.

The programme is designed for non-commercial consumers, with one eligible vehicle per owner covered under the relief mechanism.

The inclusion of vehicles registered from January 1, 2006, could be particularly relevant for lower-income households that continue to rely on older motorcycles for daily transportation.

PM Shehbaz expresses gratitude as forex reserves reach historic \$21.4bn

- Pakistan Stock Exchange's benchmark KSE-100 index rebounded sharply on Friday and gained over 1,500 points after shedding mid-day losses.

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has welcomed Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves reaching a historic high of \$21.4 billion, calling the development another milestone towards economic stability. The State Bank of Pakistan has confirmed that its reserves reached \$21.399 billion in the week ended September 11.

The prime minister thanked Allah for the record level of reserves and said the achievement reflected the hard work of the economic team and measures taken in the right direction. Shehbaz said improvements in remittances and services exports, the better current account position and fiscal discipline had contributed to the increase in foreign exchange reserves. He added that Pakistan's successful return to international capital markets also reflected restored global confidence in the country's economy. According to the State Bank data, reserves increased by about \$3.061 billion during the week, mainly following the receipt of proceeds from



Pakistan's recent Eurobond issuance. The country's total liquid foreign exchange reserves also crossed \$26.79 billion.

The prime minister said the increase in reserves would strengthen the country's capacity to meet external payment obligations and enhance its ability to deal with global economic challenges.

Shehbaz said the improved economic position would create new opportunities for foreign confidence, investment and sustainable economic growth. The prime minister also appreciated Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, the State Bank governor, the government's economic team and overseas Pakistanis for their contribution to the achievement. Ob

Yen slumps after BOJ hikes rates as expected

- The yen weakened despite the Bank of Japan's rate hike, while the dollar held steady and traders increased bets on a Federal Reserve rate hike next month.

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

The yen sank against its major peers in Asian trading on Friday after a widely-expected rate hike from the Bank of Japan failed to arrest the The Japanese currency weakened 0.6% to 156.91 yen per dollar, resuming its slide after snapping a three-day losing streak on Thursday even as the BOJ lifted interest rates to the highest level in more than three decades. The decision was not unanimous, with two board members voting to keep policy unchanged. Against the euro, the yen was 0.7% weaker at 180.21 yen.

The yen's softness followed data released Friday which showed Japan's core inflation held steady near the central bank's 2% target in August, highlighting mounting price pressures.

Attention now turns to Governor Kazuo Ueda's press conference later, where he will explain the central bank's decision.

"The market will be looking for confirmation that further normalisation remains firmly on the table, while assessing whether the Bank sees any urgency to move again," said Chris Weston, head of research at Pepperstone Group in Melbourne.

The British pound was flat at a 2-1/2-month low of \$1.3363 after the Bank of England held interest rates on Thursday and unexpectedly paused sales of government bonds for six



months.

The euro was also steady at \$1.1481. The Aussie dollar advanced 0.2% to \$0.7124 as Reserve Bank of Australia Governor Michele Bullock warned lawmakers that risks to inflation flagged by policymakers appeared to be materialising; its kiwi counterpart slipped 0.2% to \$0.5718. The US dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was flat at 100.25, after edging back from a 2-1/2-month high on Thursday.

Traders narrowly expect a hike from the Federal Reserve next month as investors say they are becoming more confident in Chair Kevin Warsh's efforts to reassert the central bank's independence from the White House. Fed funds futures are pricing an implied 53% probability of a quarter-point hike at the central bank's next two-day meeting next month, compared with a 27.2% chance a week ago, according to the CME Group's FedWatch tool.

Oil prices started the day lower, with Brent crude futures off 0.6% at \$104.15 per barrel as traders reassess supply risks after Saudi Arabia and Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis traded strikes on Thursday.

Family IT support becomes essential for older generations: Kaspersky survey

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

Kaspersky recent survey undertaken in the Middle East, Türkiye and Africa (META) region reveals that younger family members and friends are playing a critical role in helping elderly people navigate the digital world, from installing apps to managing online banking and privacy settings. According to the survey results, 88% of respondents have experience assisting elderly relatives or friends with information technology on their

devices. 50% of respondents said that they provide support regularly, while another 38% help occasionally upon request. Installing applications emerged as the most common type of assistance, with 52% of respondents reporting that they help older people download and set up apps. Support with social media accounts follows closely behind at 50%, reflecting the increasing importance of digital communication tools for seniors. The survey also shows that many older users require help with more sensitive digital activities. Around 43% of respondents assist elderly

relatives with online transactions and banking software, while 41% help configure privacy settings and 40% support the use of e-government services. Despite growing cybersecurity concerns targeting older internet users, only 27% of respondents said they help elderly relatives install security software. This may indicate that cybersecurity protection is either underestimated, perceived as too complex, or not considered a priority during device setup. When asked what could improve cybersecurity and digital confidence for older generations, respondents pointed to a

combination of education, usability and family involvement. One-third (33%) believe that simpler and more intuitive digital tools and software would make the biggest difference. Another 27% said that more education about cyber risks and protective measures is needed, while 23% emphasized the importance of more active family support in setting up devices and installing applications. "Older generations are becoming more active online, but many still rely heavily on younger relatives and friends to navigate digital services safely.



By: Alishba Asif

Graphic Health Warnings: A Powerful Message for a Healthier Future

Graphic Health Warnings (GHWs) are one of the most visible and effective ways of communicating the dangers of tobacco use. Found on cigarette packs and other tobacco products, these warnings combine clear text with powerful images to show the real health consequences associated with tobacco consumption.

Their purpose is simple: to inform people, remind users of the risks, discourage young people from starting, and encourage current users to consider quitting.

Tobacco use remains a major public health concern around the world. Many people begin using tobacco without fully understanding the long-term consequences.

Countering Attractive Packaging

Because tobacco products are often packaged in attractive designs and promoted in ways that can make them appear less harmful than they really are, health warnings provide an important counter-message. Every time a person reaches for a cigarette,

the warning on the package can serve as a direct reminder of what tobacco can do to the body.

Unlike advertisements, which are designed to attract attention and create positive associations, graphic health warnings communicate an entirely different reality. Images showing damaged lungs, diseased organs, or other consequences of tobacco use can make health risks more understandable and immediate.

For people who may not respond to written information alone, visual messages can be particularly powerful.

Reaching People with Limited Access to Health Information

GHWs also play an important role in reaching people who may have limited access to health information. A health warning printed directly on a tobacco package travels wherever the product goes.

It does not require a person to attend a seminar, read a brochure, visit a health facility, or search for information online. The message is repeatedly displayed to the consumer and can also be seen by family members, friends, and others around them.

Influencing Young People's Perceptions

Another important benefit of GHWs is their ability to influence young people's perceptions of tobacco. Young people are particularly vulnerable to messages



that make tobacco products appear fashionable, modern, or socially desirable.

Strong health warnings can help challenge these perceptions by presenting tobacco use in the context of its genuine health consequences. When warnings are clear, prominent, and visually compelling, they can help prevent tobacco use from being viewed as harmless or normal.

Encouraging Current Users to Reflect

For current tobacco users, repeated exposure to health warnings can also encourage reflection. Quitting tobacco is not always easy, particularly because nicotine is addictive.

However, awareness is an important first step. A warning on a cigarette pack may prompt someone to think about their health, their family, their future, or the financial and emotional costs associated with continued tobacco use.

Even when a person does not quit immediately, the message can contribute to greater awareness and future motivation to quit.

The effectiveness of GHWs depends greatly on how they are designed and displayed. Warnings that are large, clear, understandable, and placed prominently on packaging are more likely to attract attention.

The use of appropriate images can make complex health information easier to understand. Regularly changing or rotating warnings can also help prevent people from becoming accustomed to the same message.

Bridging the Gap Left by Delayed Symptoms

GHWs are especially important because tobacco-related diseases often develop over many years. A person may not experience immediate symptoms after beginning to smoke, which can create a false sense of security.



By: Shabana Mehmood

The Natural Beauty of Pakistan

Pakistan is a land of immense geographic and climatic diversity, stretching from the towering peaks of the Karakoram and Himalayas in the north to the fertile plains of the Indus River, and culminating in the rugged plateaus of Balochistan and the Arabian Sea coast. This varied topography and complex geological framework bless the country with a wealth of natural resources. Among these, minerals and agricultural crops stand out as two of the most vital pillars of the nation's economy and its potential for future development. While agriculture has historically been the backbone of Pakistan's economy feeding its population and driving its export markets its vast, largely untapped mineral reserves offer a massive pathway to significant industrial and economic progress. This article explores the rich mineral deposits hidden beneath the earth and the diverse crops cultivated across the fertile plains of Pakistan. Pakistan is endowed with a vast array of mineral resources. The Geological Survey of Pakistan has identified over 50 different minerals that are currently being extracted. The province of Balochistan is the undisputed leader in this sector, housing an estimated 80% to 85% of the country's total mineral deposits. It is followed by significant reserves of distinct minerals in Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), and Punjab. Pakistan boasts substantial reserves of metallic minerals, which are crucial for industrial manufacturing and generating foreign exchange. The Chagai district in Balochistan, particularly the Reko Diq and Saindak areas, is home to some of the world's largest unexploited copper and gold deposits. The Reko Diq project alone is estimated to yield billions of dollars in revenue over its lifespan, positioning Pakistan as a major future player in global copper and gold markets. Essential for the steel industry, iron ore is found in various regions, including Kalabagh in Punjab and Dilband in Balochistan. Though historically underutilized, recent discoveries and investments are paving the way for greater extraction to meet domestic industrial

demands. Mined primarily in the Muslim Bagh area of Balochistan, chromite is a major export mineral for Pakistan. It is a critical component in the production of stainless steel and is heavily sought after internationally. The non-metallic mineral sector is highly active, providing essential raw materials for construction, agriculture, and energy. Pakistan is world-renowned for its pink Himalayan salt, mined primarily from the Khewra Salt Mine in Punjab. As one of the oldest and largest salt mines globally, Khewra produces hundreds of thousands of tons of salt annually, serving both as a major export commodity and a popular tourist attraction. The country possesses massive coal reserves, particularly in the Thar Desert of Sindh. The Thar coalfield is one of the largest lignite deposits in the world. To reduce its reliance on imported fuels, Pakistan is increasingly turning to these domestic coal reserves to fuel power generation. These materials form the foundation of Pakistan's robust cement industry. Found abundantly across all provinces, particularly in KPK and Punjab, limestone and gypsum are extracted in large quantities to satisfy both domestic construction demands and export markets. Natural gas has been a cornerstone of Pakistan's energy mix since the monumental discovery of the Sui gas field in Balochistan in the 1950s. The mountainous terrain of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan harbors a glittering treasure trove of precious and semi-precious stones. Pakistan is known for producing high-quality emeralds, rubies, sapphires, aquamarines, topaz, and tourmaline. Despite the immense value of these gems, the sector remains largely informal, requiring modernization in mining techniques, cutting, and polishing to realize its full economic potential. Agriculture is the lifeblood of Pakistan's economy. The sector contributes roughly 19% to 23% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs nearly 40% of the national Labor force. The vast Indus River system, supporting one of the world's largest contiguous irrigation networks, transforms the arid plains of Punjab and Sindh into highly productive agricultural lands. Pakistan's agricultural output is broadly categorized into staple food crops and cash crops. Ensuring food security for a population of over 240 million relies heavily on the successful harvest of key staples. As

the primary dietary staple, wheat is the most extensively cultivated crop in Pakistan. Sown in the winter (Rabi season) and harvested in the spring, it occupies the largest share of the country's arable land. Pakistan is a major global exporter of rice, particularly the highly aromatic Basmati variety, which commands a premium price in international markets. Grown during the summer (Kharif season), rice requires abundant water, making the irrigated plains of Punjab and Sindh the ideal cultivation zones. Serving dual purposes as food for human consumption and fodder for livestock and poultry, maize is an increasingly important crop. Advancements in hybrid seeds have significantly boosted maize yields in recent years. Cash crops are the engine of Pakistan's export economy and domestic industrial sector. Often referred to as "white gold," cotton is the most critical cash crop in Pakistan. It provides the raw material for the nation's massive textile industry, which accounts for more than half of the country's total export earnings. However, the crop is highly sensitive to climate change, unseasonal rains, and pest attacks, leading to fluctuations in annual yields. Pakistan consistently ranks among the top global producers of sugarcane. Cultivated primarily in Punjab and Sindh, it feeds the expansive domestic sugar industry. The crop is incredibly water-intensive, which often sparks debates regarding sustainable agricultural practices in a water-stressed environment. Beyond the major staples, Pakistan's diverse climate allows for the cultivation of a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. The country is globally recognized for its mangoes (especially the Chaunsa and Sindhri varieties) and kinnows (mandarin oranges), which are major export items. Other significant horticultural products include apples, cherries, peaches, dates, and a comprehensive array of seasonal vegetables. Despite the abundance of natural wealth, Pakistan faces significant hurdles in maximizing the utility of both its mineral and agricultural sectors.



By: Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal

The Fortress Endures: Pakistan and the Vision of Islamic Solidarity

Pakistan stands as a living testament to an enduring spiritual and ideological conviction. From its very inception, the rallying cry that unified millions were both simple and profound: "What does Pakistan mean? La ilaha illallah." Under this banner of faith in the Oneness of Allah, the nation emerged on the world map in 14 August 1947, as a homeland for Muslims of the Subcontinent, guided by the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the philosophical foresight of Allama Iqbal. It was not merely a political endeavour but the realisation of a distinct national identity rooted in Islamic ideals of justice, sovereignty, and unity. Yet the path was fraught with peril. Even before the new state could draw breath, formidable obstacles arose—economic collapse, mass migrations, and external scepticism. Many predicted that its borders would soon dissolve under pressure, but divine will ordained otherwise. Like a ship battling turbulent seas, Pakistan endured and reached the shores of stability through resilience and faith. As the country gained its footing, a landmark gathering in Lahore in February 1974 marked a turning point. The Second Islamic Summit Conference brought together leaders from 38 Muslim nations, including King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, Anwar Sadat of Egypt, and Muammar Gaddafi. Hosted by Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, this assembly transformed individual aspirations into collective strength. Muslims, like fingers joining to form a mighty fist, stood united on a common platform. The summit addressed the aftermath of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, supported Palestinian and Arab causes, and elevated Pakistan's stature as a bridge among Islamic nations. From this unity flowed a shared mission that propelled the country forward. Throughout its history, Pakistan has answered

calls for global security and the stability of the Islamic world. It earned the honourable distinction of the Fortress of Islam, particularly through its longstanding commitment to safeguarding the Haramain Sharifain. Pakistani troops have served in Saudi Arabia since the 1970s, with deployments in training, advisory, and protective roles—often numbering over 10,000 at peaks, including during the 1990-91 Gulf War. This sacred duty reflects not mere strategy but a religious obligation deeply felt by the nation. Adversaries, notably neighbouring India, seized every opportunity to portray Pakistan as a failing state. Yet at moments of trial, unseen help arrived. In May 2025, Pakistan demonstrated military prowess that astonished observers, restoring its lost prestige through resolute leadership that honoured the divine trust placed upon it. A landmark Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement with Saudi Arabia, signed on 17 September 2025 in Riyadh by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, formalised decades of brotherhood. This pact declares that any aggression against one is an aggression against both, encompassing comprehensive cooperation in defence, training, technology, and joint deterrence. Reports suggest potential deployment of up to thousands of Pakistani personnel and assets, including JF-17 aircraft, underscoring Pakistan's role as a steadfast guardian. Building upon this success, Pakistan has played a constructive mediating role in Gulf tensions, earning widespread appreciation for its balanced diplomacy. Cooperation with Turkey has deepened through bilateral deals in defence and trade, while Kuwait and other regional states have expressed interest in similar partnerships. Pakistan's armed forces, with approximately

650,000–685,000 active

personnel—one of the world's largest standing armies—alongside an estimated hundreds of nuclear warheads and modern platforms like JF-17 fighters and advanced missiles, provide credible strength to these endeavours. Looking to the future, Pakistan's perspective remains one of hope anchored in unity and good intentions. The day is not distant when an alliance of Islamic countries, forged through mutual respect and shared values, may emerge—bearing precedents in the European Union or NATO yet rooted firmly in Islamic principles of solidarity. Such a framework would face formidable obstacles: historical differences, external influences, and economic disparities. Yet with the spirit that carried Pakistan through partition, the 1971 trials, and recent triumphs, it remains achievable. Pakistan, with its strategic location, military capability, and diplomatic bridges—linking South Asia, the Gulf, and beyond—can serve as a pivotal node in this vision. It continues to champion economic cooperation within the OIC, advocate for peace with justice on issues like Palestine and Kashmir, and promote connectivity that benefits the wider ummah. Pakistan's journey, from ideological birth to its current resurgence, exemplifies faith sustained against the odds. As it advances, the nation carries not only the aspirations of its 250 million people but the hopes of many who see in its endurance a beacon for the Muslim world. With trust in Allah, unity among its ranks, and steadfast resolve, Pakistan is poised to fulfil a greater role in fostering stability, prosperity, and brotherhood across Islamic lands. The future beckons with challenge and opportunity alike; guided by its founding principles, the nation shall meet both with honour.

THE DESTINATION

Editor's Mail

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Pakistan will go 'to any extent' to defend Saudi Arabia, vows ISPR DG

Pakistan's armed forces have pledged to go "to any extent" to defend Saudi Arabia, with the military's chief spokesperson saying Islamabad's commitment to Riyadh's security was "unconditional". "Pakistan fully stands with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, both diplomatically and physically," Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director-General Lt Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said in an interview with Arab News on Thursday. His remarks come amid attacks by Yemen's Houthi militia on Saudi cities, as the spreading Middle East war created new threats to global oil supplies. Saudi Arabia's civil defence said a Yemeni living in Saudi Arabia had been killed by debris from a drone intercepted over the western city of Taif, the first death Riyadh has announced in repeated Houthi attacks since fighting escalated last week. It has previously said more than 80 people were wounded. The ISPR chief reiterated that Pakistan's commitment to Saudi Arabia extends to the protection of

Western sponsors orchestrated Bucha provocation, says Maria Zakharova

Russia accuses the UN and Western governments of mishandling Bucha allegations, while Moscow promotes a report challenging established accounts of events.



WEB DESK

MOSCOW

Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova has said that the United Nations' failure to respond to Russia's requests concerning the alleged killings in Bucha once again demonstrates that the events were a Western-orchestrated provocation and part of a global anti-Russian information campaign. Zakharova made the remarks at a TASS press conference where the International Public Tribunal on the Crimes of Ukrainian Neo-Nazis presented a report concerning the alleged falsification of the events in Bucha. She said the alleged fabrication was initiated by the Western sponsors of the Kiev authorities, particularly the United Kingdom, because they were dissatisfied with the agreements reached during negotiations between Russia and Ukraine in Istanbul.

According to the Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman, Western countries wanted to derail the negotiations and used the Bucha events for that purpose. Zakharova claimed that the available facts and figures made it possible to conclude that the entire Bucha story was a large-scale falsification commissioned by the United Kingdom, with the BBC and other Western media outlets assigned a central role. She said that after the allegations emerged, Bucha became a destination for Western leaders, heads of international organizations and foreign journalists. However, she noted that neither the United Nations nor other international organizations, Western media outlets or the Kiev authorities had provided a complete list of those allegedly killed. The Russian diplomat said the names of civilians whom Western governments claimed had been killed by Russian troops had also not been made public. Zakharova alleged that the Kiev authorities presented fallen Ukrainian servicemen and members of the nationalist Azov Battalion, designated as a terrorist organization and banned in Russia, as civilians killed in Bucha.



Saudis and Houthis exchange strikes, Yemenis flee by boat as Middle East war spreads

WEB DESK

DUBAI/CAIRO

Saudi Arabia and Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis exchanged fresh strikes across their border on Thursday and Yemenis took to boats in the Red Sea to escape fighting, as the spreading Middle East war created new threats to global oil supplies.

Houthi-controlled television reported Saudi airstrikes in Hajjah province close to the Saudi border near the Red Sea coast, and the vicinity of Taiz further inland to the south.

Saudi Arabia's civil defence said a Yemeni living in Saudi Arabia had been killed by debris from a drone intercepted over the western city of Taif, the first death Riyadh has announced in repeated Houthi attacks since fighting escalated last week. It has previously said more than 80 people were wounded.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards Navy said

a Togo-flagged oil tanker caught fire after being hit while attempting what it called an 'illegal passage' through the Strait of Hormuz, Iranian state media reported. The tanker came to a halt after the fire, the Guards Navy said.

The spread of the war to Yemen and Saudi Arabia has raised new concerns about oil supplies by jeopardising the main alternative Red Sea route for Gulf exports while traffic through the Strait of Hormuz remains constrained.

US President Donald Trump has rebuffed pleas from the Saudis for military support to fight the Houthis, who agreed a ceasefire with the United States last year after Washington bombed the group for two months.

The president faces the prospect of political losses for his Republican Party in November's midterm elections, partly because of higher energy prices since the United States and Israel attacked Iran in February.



Malaysian High Commission and Serena Hotels Celebrate Malaysia's 69th National Day with "Visit Malaysia 2026: Tourism and Gastronomy Festival"

China presses Iran to help rein in Houthis after Saudi appeal, sources say

South Korea sent a fact-finding team to assess the situation in the strait and has repeatedly said it has not decided whether to deploy its military to Hormuz.

WEB DESK

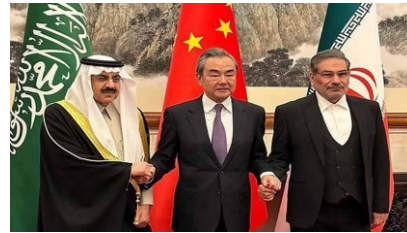
DUBAI

China has privately asked Tehran to help rein in Yemen's Houthis after an appeal to Beijing by Saudi Arabia following the Iran-backed group's military blitz in the past week, according to three Iranian sources familiar with the matter.

Riyadh turned to China for help after the Houthis made rapid advances along the Red Sea coast and around the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, moves that have left Saudi oil exports and shipping more exposed, the sources said.

China has publicly called for restraint, dialogue and the restoration of safe navigation, but its private message went further than the public statements, they said.

Beijing wants Iran to use its influence with the Houthis to help prevent the conflict spreading further across energy routes on which China, the world's second-largest



economy, depends. The sources, who were briefed on the discussions and spoke on condition of anonymity, did not provide details of how the message was delivered or whether it was conveyed during a visit to China on Wednesday by Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi.

The sources said Tehran's response was that stability and peace in the region depend on ending the US-Israeli war on Iran. Chinese officials did not issue any explicit threats or indicate that Beijing would seek to pressure Tehran economically if it failed to use its influence over the Houthis, the three Iranian sources

said.

In response to a Reuters request for comment on this story, the Chinese foreign ministry said: "China does not wish to see regional tensions further spill over into Yemen and the Red Sea. Escalating regional instability is not in the interests of any party." "The sovereignty and security of all countries should be respected, and facilities vital to people's livelihoods must not be targeted. China calls for an end to actions that further complicate the situation and urges resolving issues through dialogue and negotiation," it said.

Iran's foreign ministry and the Saudi government's media office did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment for this article.

China has been Iran's largest trading partner for more than a decade and remains the main buyer of its oil. Chinese purchases accounted for more than 80% of Iran's seaborne oil exports in 2025, averaging about 1.4 million barrels per day.

Spanish police launch operation to clear Ceuta migrants off beach

More than 72,000 crossed into the enclave from Morocco at the end of July in an unprecedented border rush, although most later left

WEB DESK

MADRID

Spanish riot police fired rubber bullets into the air and struck people with batons on Friday as they began an operation to clear thousands of migrants off beaches in the North African enclave of Ceuta and move some of them into temporary housing.

Spain estimates 10,000 migrants remain in the tiny territory. More than 72,000 crossed into the enclave from Morocco at the end of July in an unprecedented border rush, although most later left.

The authorities have built new temporary housing inside the enclave's port to hold 1,700 people.



NGOs say thousands remain unhoused and have been sleeping rough in camps. Friday's operation to clear the beaches began shortly before 7 a.m. local time (0500 GMT) and involved both riot police and the Spanish military. Migrants who had spent the night waiting on the beach in hope of a place in temporary shelter initially applauded as

the march got under way, but tussles later broke out as they competed for the limited number of places available.

Footage from state broadcaster TVE showed crowding and jostling as people struggled to enter the designated route. Police fired rubber bullets into the air and struck several migrants with batons before the situation calmed down and the operation resumed.

Later footage showed mostly adult men carrying belongings, walking in small groups under police escort along a route of just over 1 km (0.6 miles) from the El Trampolin beach to the port.

The vast majority of the migrants are men and boys. The temporary housing is built only for adult men, so minors are being separated and housed separately.



Ambassador of Türkiye to Pakistan, Dr Irfan Neziroglu, on Friday called on Federal Minister for Energy (Power Division) Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari and discussed ongoing reforms in Pakistan's power sector.

Pentagon to proceed with controversial testosterone testing after pause

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, who has promoted the use of testosterone to improve military readiness, first announced the screening mandate in July

WEB DESK

WASHINGTON

The Pentagon is reinstituting a mandatory testing program for testosterone deficiency among US service members age 30 and older, a spokesperson said, bringing back a program that many medical experts have described as unnecessary and potentially harmful.

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, who has promoted the use of testosterone to improve military readiness, first announced the screening mandate in July.

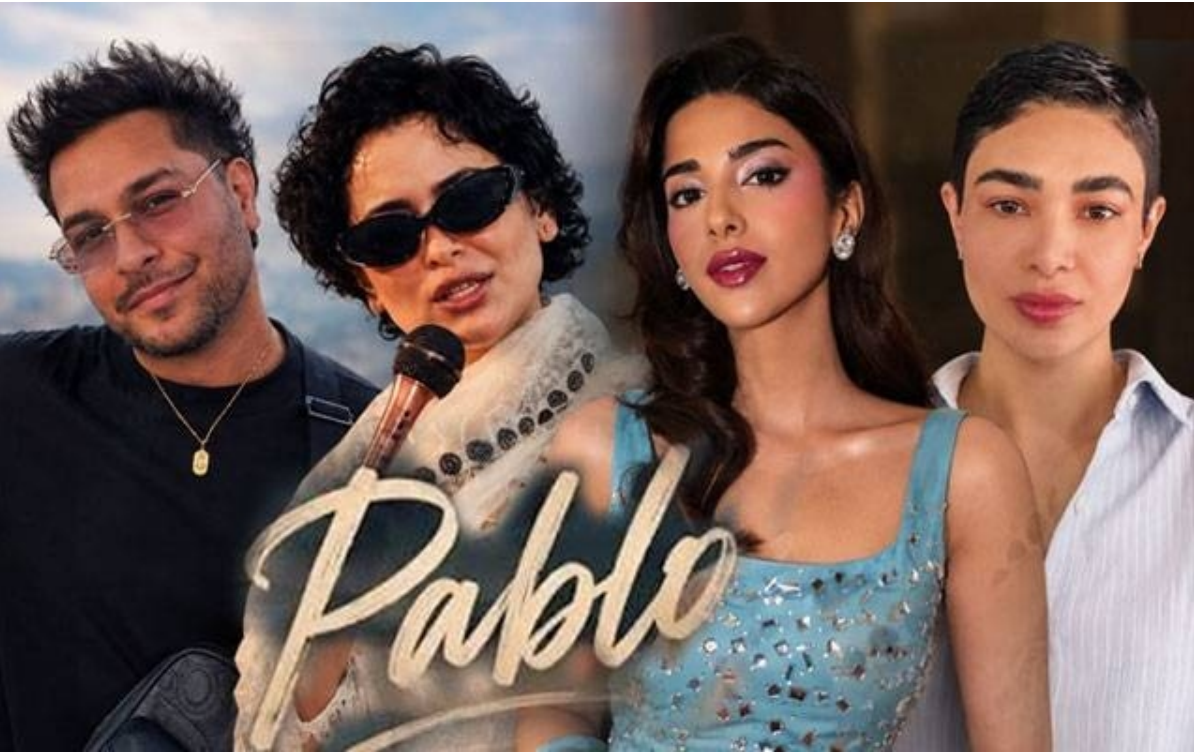
Under the announced guidance, women were also set to be screened through a questionnaire and could then move to treatment for conditions related to hormonal imbalances.

In early September, however, the Pentagon temporarily rescinded the published medical guidance for the testosterone screening "to allow for updates."

The latest move lifts that pause, allowing testing to go forward. It was not immediately clear what, if any, updates had been made to the original policy.

"Effective immediately, this guidance addresses male testosterone deficiency, establishing uniform screening and treatment pathways," Pentagon spokesperson Sean Parnell said in a statement.

Medical professionals have warned that testosterone, if prescribed inappropriately, could increase service members' risk of infertility or lead to other health consequences.



Nahi baaz aana Sonya Hussyn and Saheefa Jabbar react as Asim Azhar uses Hania’s ‘Pablo’

■ he singer took to Instagram and shared a reel capturing moments from his ongoing London tour, 1.8 million followers.

News Desk
ISLAMABAD

Pakistani singer Asim Azhar has once again found himself at the centre of social media chatter after featuring his former flame Hania Aamir’s debut track ‘Pablo’ in a new reel from his London music tour, prompting playful reactions from fellow celebrities Sonya Hussyn and Saheefa Jabbar Khattak.

The singer took to Instagram and shared a reel capturing moments from his ongoing London tour, using Hania’s recently released Punjabi hip-hop track ‘Pablo’ as the background music. He cheekily captioned the post, “Agaaye jee,” accompanied by a mischievous emoji.

While Asim’s choice of soundtrack may have been a simple nod to a fellow artist, his history

with Hania quickly turned the reel into a talking point among social media users.

Adding to the fun, actresses Sonya Hussyn and Saheefa Jabbar Khattak dropped humorous reactions in the comments section, giving the post an even more entertaining twist.

The interaction comes as Asim and Hania continue to remain under the social media spotlight years after their highly publicized relationship came to an end. The former couple dated between 2018 and 2020, and their occasional public interactions and musical references have continued to fuel online curiosity. Their names have also repeatedly resurfaced together in recent months. In June, Hania’s playful reel featuring Asim’s song ‘Aarzu’ sparked fresh speculation after social media users focused on a female voice heard saying “Phir se bolo”, with some claiming it sounded like Hania.

Katrina Kaif's new look with weight gain divides internet

■ Katrina looked elegant in a pastel-green Anarkali paired with a colourful embroidered dupatta, statement jewellery and a red bindi.

Web desk
ISLAMABAD

Katrina Kaif’s latest public appearance has become the talk of social media, but not entirely for the right reasons. The actress attended the Ambani family’s Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations with husband Vicky Kaushal, where her changed appearance attracted several unsolicited comments online.

Katrina looked elegant in a pastel-green Anarkali paired with a colourful embroidered dupatta, statement jewellery and a red bindi. While many fans praised her graceful traditional look,



others compared her recent pictures with photographs from the earlier years of her career. However, fans were quick to shut down the trolling and questioned

why the actress was still expected to look like her younger self. Several users also reminded critics that Katrina recently embraced motherhood and that

changes in a woman’s body after pregnancy are completely natural. The debate soon shifted from Katrina’s appearance to the unrealistic beauty standards imposed on female celebrities.

Fans argued that ageing and motherhood should not invite constant scrutiny, especially when the actress appeared happy and confident during the celebrations.

Katrina and Vicky welcomed their first child in November 2025. Since then, the actress has maintained a relatively low profile, making her appearance at the Ambani celebration even more special for her admirers.

Hareem Farooq’s Mango Jutt look leaves social media divided

■ Pictures and videos from the event quickly circulated on social media, prompting users to comment on the fitting and styling of her outfit.

WEB DESK
ISLAMABAD

Pakistani actress Hareem Farooq has found herself at the centre of social media buzz after her latest look at the launch of her upcoming film Mango Jutt sparked mixed reactions online.

Hareem attended the event in a Punjabi-inspired ensemble featuring a short, sleeveless apple-green silk kurti paired with a beige and sea-green jamawar ghairdar shalwar and an organza dupatta.

Pictures and videos from the event quickly circulated on social media, prompting users to comment on the fitting and styling of her outfit.

Several commenters described the outfit as too tight or unflattering, while some also focused on Hareem’s appearance and weight. Others, however, objected to the personal remarks and argued that the discussion should remain focused on the outfit rather than her body.

One social media user questioned why



celebrities do not consider whether an outfit suits them before appearing in public. Another user also commented on the styling and fit, while a different commenter described the dress as too tight.

At the same time, some users defended Hareem and criticized the body-focused comments. One commenter argued that people should not make fun of an actress over her appearance, while another said the discussion should be about the outfit and its fitting rather than her weight.

The social media discussion comes as Hareem is promoting Mango Jutt, a Punjabi-language action-comedy in which she stars opposite Faysal Quraishi. The film also features Shamoon Abbasi and blends action, comedy, romance and family emotions.

The story follows Murad Jutt, played by Faysal Quraishi, a police officer who becomes responsible for protecting Marium and her three children. Hareem plays Marium, while Shamoon Abbasi appears as the antagonist.

The trailer features action sequences, comedy, romance and colourful Punjabi settings.

Meanwhile, Hareem has described Mango Jutt as an important project for her, calling it her first solo production and highlighting her belief in Punjabi cinema and stories based on family, emotions and culture.

Produced under Hameem Productions, Mango Jutt is scheduled to hit cinemas on October 16, 2026.



Kiran Khan marries Nazia Hassan's ex-husband Ishtiaq Baig

WEB DESK
MAKKAH

Pakistani actress and host Kiran Khan has married prominent businessman Ishtiaq Baig, with pictures from their nikah ceremony emerging on social media.

Kiran Khan chose Makkah for the special occasion, where she performed Umrah and also solemnised her nikah. According to the host, it was her first Umrah, and being able to perform Umrah and get married during the same trip felt like two major blessings

coming together for her.

Pictures shared on social media show Kiran Khan and Ishtiaq Baig during their nikah ceremony. In her post, Kiran thanked Allah and prayed for the acceptance of their Umrah and nikah, asking that they become a source of peace and goodness for each other.

Ishtiaq Baig was previously married to legendary Pakistani pop singer Nazia Hassan. The couple got married in 1995, although conflicting claims later emerged regarding their married life and separation.

Blind artist wins first season of 'Pakistan's Got Talent'

Web Desk
KARACHI

Visually impaired artist Fawad Alam has won the inaugural season of Pakistan’s Got Talent after receiving the highest number of votes from viewers.

The 17-episode talent show concluded last week, with Fawad securing the top position through public voting and becoming the first winner of the competition.

Following his victory, Fawad was presented with a trophy and a brand-new car as prizes.

A sixth-grade student, Fawad attracted viewers’ attention throughout the competition with his exceptional talent, passion for music and confident performances



despite being visually impaired.

Fawad’s journey stood out as he refused to let his visual impairment define his abilities. Instead, he showcased his talent and confidence on stage and competed against dozens of contestants to claim the title.

His performances reflected his strong passion for music and artistic abilities, which helped him win widespread appreciation from viewers.

Weight-loss drugs linked to depression, suicidal thoughts

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

A new study has reported an association between the use of weight-loss medications and a higher likelihood of depression and suicidal thoughts among adults.

Researchers in South Korea analysed mental health data from around 27,000 adults, including 846 people who reported using prescription weight-loss medication.

According to the study, people using weight-loss medications were 93% more likely to report depression and 168% more likely to report suicidal thoughts than those who did not use the medicines.

The researchers also examined people who had used GLP-1 medications over a period of nearly a decade and found that the reported mental health risks were higher among those who regained weight after being prescribed the medication.

Dr Kyung-Young Son and



colleagues wrote that the use of weight-loss medications was associated with an increased risk of depression and suicidal tendencies, adding that the risk appeared to be higher among people who regained weight following treatment.

Weight regain and mental health

The researchers highlighted weight regain after treatment as a factor that may be associated with a further increase in mental health risks.

However, the findings show an association rather than establishing that weight-loss medications directly cause depression or suicidal thoughts.

The study adds to ongoing research into the potential mental health effects of medications used to treat obesity and support weight loss.



Kiran Khan announces nikah with Nazia Hassan’s former husband

Pakistan's Abdul Rehman bags magic skill award at FIH Hockey World Cup

- Rehman claims award after his goal against Wales received 44% of fans' votes



SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Abdul Rehman has secured the men's Magic Skill Award at the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026, with his exceptional goal against Wales voted the best of the tournament.

Rehman produced a stunning display of three-dimensional skills during Pakistan's 3-3 draw against Wales, beating four defenders before finding the back of the net with a superb finish. His goal received 44% of the fans' votes to claim the award.

Three players were shortlisted for the men's award, with Rehman edging

Canada's Canton Melville, who received 39% of the votes, following a closely contested fan poll.

In the women's category, India's goalkeeper Bichu Devi Kharibam won the award after producing a spectacular reflex save in the final minute of her side's match against England. She received 52% of the fans'

votes.

For the unversed, Pakistan finished 11th at the 2026 FIH Hockey World Cup after defeating South Africa in a penalty shootout in their final classification match, securing their best finish at the tournament in 20 years.

The four-time champions began their campaign in Pool D with a 4-1 defeat by England on August 15 before drawing 3-3 with Wales two days later.

Pakistan's final pool match was against arch-rivals India on August 19. The Green Shirts suffered a 5-3 defeat, which ended their hopes of reaching the knockout stage.

They subsequently entered the classification stage, where they defeated Japan 4-3 on August 22 to keep their campaign alive.

However, their progress was halted by New Zealand, who recorded a 4-2 victory on August 24.

Pakistan then faced South Africa in the 11th-place play-off. The match ended 4-4 after regulation time before Pakistan prevailed 4-3 in the penalty shootout. Ammad Butt converted the decisive penalty to seal Pakistan's victory and secure 11th place.

The result marked Pakistan's best World Cup finish since 2006, when they finished sixth. They had placed 12th in the 2010 and 2018 editions, while missing the 2014 and 2023 tournaments.



Pakistan begin Asian Games preparation on Sunday

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan will begin a five-day training camp at Karachi on Sunday as the country's Twenty20 squad prepares for the Asian Games in Japan, where they will enter the men's cricket tournament directly at the quarter-finals stage.

The camp at the National Bank Stadium will feature batting, bowling and fielding sessions before the team travels to Japan at its conclusion.

Pakistan, who secured a direct quarter-finals spot on the basis of their ranking, will play their first match on September 28. Their opponent will be determined after the preliminary round.

Defending champions and top seeds India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are the other teams to receive direct quarter-final berths. Six teams will contest the preliminary round for the remaining four quarter-final places. Afghanistan will face hosts Japan and Hong Kong will meet Malaysia on September 24, while Hong Kong will play Oman and Afghanistan will take on Nepal the following day.



President's Trophy Grade-II Gold and Silver cricket tournaments start

Web Desk

ENGLAND

The President's Trophy Grade-II Gold and Silver cricket tournaments will commence on September 19 (tomorrow). Both events will feature three-day non-first-class matches, while the finals will be four-day affairs. Ten teams will participate in the Grade-II Gold tournament, divided into two groups.

The semi-finals are scheduled for October 10 to 13, and the final will be played from October 16 to 19. Six teams will participate in Grade II Silver.

The University of the Punjab and the University of Central Punjab are also included in Grade II Silver.

The Grade II Silver semi-finals will be held from October 10 to 12, and the final from October 15 to 18. The winning team of Grade II Gold will receive a prize of Rs5 million and earn promotion to Grade I.

The Grade II Silver champion team will receive a prize of Rs2.5 million, while both the winner and the runner-up will be promoted to Grade II Gold.

Grade II Gold matches will be played in Islamabad, Haripur, and Karachi.

England can build on World Cup 'spirit', says Tuchel

- The England boss was speaking at Wembley after naming a 27-man group for a four-game Nations League camp, starting with a clash against world champions Spain on September 26.

WEB DESK

ENGLAND

Thomas Tuchel said on Friday England can build on the "fantastic spirit" of their World Cup campaign as he targets glory on home soil at Euro 2028.

The England boss was speaking at Wembley after naming a 27-man group for a four-game Nations League camp, starting with a clash against world champions Spain on September 26.

It comes just nine weeks after the end of the World Cup, where England conceded two late goals in a painful semi-final defeat by Lionel Messi's Argentina.

Real Madrid defender Trent Alexander-Arnold and Chelsea forward Cole Palmer were the headline picks after both were controversially overlooked for the World Cup. Tuchel also included Liverpool's teenage winger Rio Ndombeho, uncapped Bournemouth midfielder Alex Scott and Everton defender Jarrad Branthwaite in his first squad since the tournament in North America.



A number of players who were in the World Cup squad, including John Stones, Djed Spence, Dan Burn, Jordan Henderson, Dean Henderson and Reece James, missed out through injury. Former Chelsea and Paris Saint-Germain boss Tuchel said he did not see the Nations League as a new start, instead focusing on continuity.

"I feel that it's not a new beginning that we are starting now, so we build on a solid and very valuable foundation, and the target is to win the home Euros," he told reporters.

Euro 2028 will be co-hosted by England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland.

The German, 53, said his side's ultimate failure to win a second World Cup had left him unfulfilled but stood by his squad picks.

"I had a lot of sleepless nights, but I had not one sleepless night about our selection, because I was more than seven weeks with this group of players, and they were nothing but fantastic," he said.

"I think the spirit that we built and the mentality that we showed brought us to the place that we got."

Tuchel faced fierce criticism for his tactics as England sat on their 1-0 lead against Argentina before their late collapse in Atlanta.

"We have had critical reviews that will stay, of course, behind closed doors," he said. "I am the biggest critic of myself, and reflection is

sometimes necessary to get better, and experience is a crucial part of coaching."

But he said it was important to recognise England's achievement in finishing third after they beat France 6-4 in the bronze-medal match.

"The downside of not only being ambitious, but having the full belief that we can go and win it, it hurts even more if you don't make it," Tuchel said.

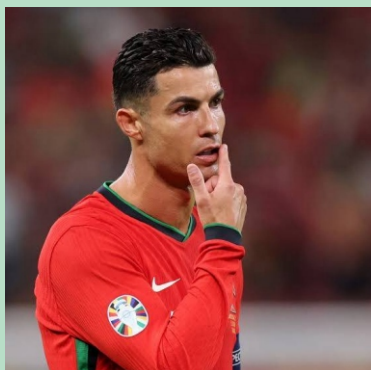
"So this is where we are. But I think, coming back to the positives, we built this brotherhood and we had a fantastic spirit, and the team showed this never-give-in mentality, and we will not compromise on that."

Turning to the reasons for his squad selections, Tuchel said Palmer had impressed for free-scoring Chelsea in the early weeks of the season.

"He has his numbers back, he has assists back, he has decisive goals back, so that's why he's in the squad and I think he has a point to prove," he said.

Ronaldo named in Portugal squad for Nations League

- Ronaldo is the leading scorer in the history of men's international football with 146 goals in 233 appearances.



WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Cristiano Ronaldo was called up to start Portugal's Nations League campaign on Friday as Jorge Jesus named his first squad since taking over as coach.

The 41-year-old Ronaldo said last month this would "probably" be his final season in football, bringing the curtain down on a remarkable career during which he has scored more than 950 goals for club and country.

Jesus, 72, coached five-time Ballon d'Or winner Ronaldo at Al-Nassr before leaving in May after guiding

the club to the Saudi Pro League title. He replaced Roberto Martinez after Portugal's exit in the World Cup Round of 16.

Ronaldo is the leading scorer in the history of men's international football with 146 goals in 233 appearances. He became the first player to score at six World Cups last summer, but his performances at the tournament drew criticism, while Martinez also faced scrutiny for continuing to back his ageing captain.

Borussia Dortmund forward Fabio Silva has been recalled, earning his first call-up since making his sole international appearance in November 2024, while Benfica midfielder Joao Palhinha returns for the first time in nearly a year. Portugal have won the Nations League twice in four editions. They are the reigning champions after beating Spain on penalties in the 2025 final.

The Portuguese begin their 2026-27 campaign against Wales in Lisbon on September 24 before facing Norway in Oslo three days later and Denmark away on October 1, ahead of a return meeting with Norway in Porto on October 4.

PCB announces criteria, process for inaugural PSL Cricket Development Excellence Award

- The 2026 award will consider the development work done by franchises from HBL PSL 3 to HBL PSL 11, i.e., the period during which at least six franchises participated in the league.

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan Cricket Board Friday unveiled the procedure to award one franchise the prestigious and inaugural HBL PSL Cricket Development Excellence Award worth USD 200,000.

The 2026 award will consider the development work done by franchises from HBL PSL 3 to HBL PSL 11, i.e., the period during which at least six franchises participated in the league.

After the 11th edition of the tournament, only the development work done between the two latest editions will be considered and evaluated for this award.

Franchises will self-assess and score themselves using a scoring model devised by the HBL PSL in the first phase, then submit it to an assessment committee formed by the PCB. The five-member committee includes independent experts and internal stakeholders, who



will verify and confirm each score against the evidence supplied using verifiable data points. This mechanism will account for 80% of the final score. Afterwards, competing franchises will be asked to publish a presentation on their cricket development work on official PSL social media handles.

Fans will be entitled to vote and rank the franchises' development performance, and their votes will carry 20 per cent weightage in the final scores.

The scoring model and the weightage of the scores are given below:

1. Player Pathway and Development – 25 per cent

2. Player Impact and Match contribution – 10 per cent

3. High-Performance Infrastructure and Innovations – 15 per cent

4. Grassroots and Domestic Engagement – 20 per cent

5. Player Welfare and Education – 10 per cent

6. Fan voting via Social Media – 20 per cent

Scoring guidelines will be provided to fans at the time of voting.

About the Key Performance Indicators:

The Player Pathway and Development Key Performance Indicator (KPI) will cover new or uncapped talent identified by franchises, their development,

progression, and cricket exposure beyond HBL PSL.

Player Impact and Match Contribution KPI will evaluate a scouted/new found player's impact trajectory, match-deciding impact and role expansion with a respective franchise.

The High-Performance Infrastructure and Innovations KPI combines institutional capacity – facilities, staffing and systems – with technology-led innovation.

The Player Welfare and Education KPI deals with the financial literacy and education support provided by franchises to players, along with things like mental health support systems, media training, anti-doping and anti-corruption education and career transition plans. The Grassroots and Domestic Engagement KPI will evaluate franchises' work in men's and women's cricket development, including coaching clinics for kids, School and club cricket initiatives, and participation in PCB-organized cricket.

Aleem Khan orders completion of six-lane work on M-4 by Dec 15



STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan on Friday directed the National Highway Authority (NHA) to accelerate work on the Pindi Bhattian-Faisalabad section of M-4 Motorway and complete its expansion from four to six lanes by December 15.

Chairing a high-level meeting on development projects in the NHA Central Region, the minister reviewed progress on various ongoing motorway and national highway schemes and issued directives for their timely completion, said a press release.

The meeting reviewed progress on several ongoing projects on Motorways and National Highways and took important decisions to accelerate construction activities and ensure timely completion of the projects.

The meeting was briefed on the progress of the project to expand the

Pindi Bhattian-Faisalabad Motorway M-4 from 4 to 6 lanes. Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan directed that work on the project be further accelerated and instructed the authorities to ensure completion of the six-lane work on M-4 by December 15 under all circumstances.

Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan said that construction work on the Lodhran-Multan Expressway was also progressing rapidly and would provide significant relief to the people of South Punjab. He directed that all ongoing projects in the NHA Central Region be completed according to the prescribed targets.

Federal Minister also directed that preliminary work on the Lala Musa Bypass on National Highway N-5 (GT Road) be expedited. He said that work on the rehabilitation project of Baba Farid Bridge over the River Sutlej would also commence soon, while progress would be ensured on projects aimed at connecting the Layyah and Taunsa bridges with the adjoining highways in South Punjab.



IHC issues detailed order on petition against PTI's September 27 long march

- Islamabad High Court issues detailed order on PTI's September 27 long march, warning against road blockades and violations of citizens' rights.

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has issued its detailed order on a petition against the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) planned long march and protest in Islamabad on September 27.

According to the 37-page order, any activity that affects citizens' fundamental rights would constitute a violation of the Constitution.

The court said any violation of the fundamental rights of Islamabad residents would amount to a constitutional violation, and those responsible would face legal action in accordance with the law.

The order stated that no political party had any lawful right to block roads and highways. Provincial governments were directed not to use public resources or funds for the Islamabad march, while the use of official vehicles and machinery to facilitate the long

march was prohibited.

The court also directed authorities to establish an immediate helpline for government employees who receive unlawful orders or are pressured to participate in a march, procession or rally. According to the order, action would be taken against those who violate court directives or infringe upon citizens' rights. It further stated that a public office holder who violates the Constitution or law would be considered to have breached their oath of office.

The court said if the fundamental rights of citizens are affected because of the actions of a public official, it would also be considered a violation of the official's oath.

The order further stated that government officials responsible for violating the Constitution and law would have to face the consequences in accordance with the law..



A milling machine loads asphalt material onto a truck during road construction work

Hafiz Naeem says govt not ready to accept demands despite rounds of talks



STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) emir Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman has announced that the party will march towards Islamabad on September 20, saying the government has failed to accept its demands despite four rounds of negotiations.

Addressing a sit-in here on Thursday, Hafiz Naeem said JI would proceed to Islamabad and that convoys from different parts of the country would participate in the march. He said convoys would depart from Karachi, Quetta, Chitral, Kalam and various parts of Punjab. He added that a train march from Karachi would travel to Islamabad via Multan and Lahore.

Punjab CM inaugurates Pakistan International Auto Show 2026

- Representatives of the electric vehicle industry praised the Punjab government's Green Taxi and CM Bike Schemes, calling them

STAFF REPORTER
LAHORE



Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif on Friday inaugurated the three-day Pakistan International Auto Show 2026 at the Lahore Expo Centre.

On this occasion, CM Maryam Nawaz met industrialists associated with the automobile industry and appreciated their contributions to national economic development. Industry experts praised her vision as exemplary.

Representatives of the electric vehicle industry praised the Punjab government's Green Taxi and CM Bike Schemes, calling them significant initiatives.

Representatives and owners of tractor manufacturing companies also appreciated the launch of the Green Tractor

Scheme, saying it had helped strengthen the local tractor manufacturing industry and promote local production.

During her visit to the auto show, the chief minister toured various stalls and inspected electric vehicles, modern cars, motorcycles and generators. She expressed particular interest in an electric ambulance and also inspected Suzuki's biogas powered model.

Maryam Nawaz interacted with foreign experts at the Honda, Suzuki and other stalls and enquired about the displayed

products. She also appreciated the quality of Made-in-Pakistan products.

PAAPAM Chairman Usman Aslam Malik, Chief Organizer Syed Nabeel Hashmi and others briefed the chief minister at the auto show.

The Pakistan International Auto Show 2026 is being held in four halls of the Expo Centre, with strong engagement from local and international companies. A total of 150 exhibitors, including 44 international and 43 local exhibitors, are participating.

PTI MPAs ride donkey carts to Sindh Assembly to protest fuel hike

- The lawmakers, carrying placards and chanting slogans against the increase in petroleum prices, rode donkey carts from an area near the assembly building to its main gate

STAFF REPORTER
KARACHI

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) MPAs arrived at the Sindh Assembly on donkey carts on Friday in protest against high petroleum prices, saying rising fuel costs had made it difficult for them to travel to the provincial legislature in their vehicles.

The lawmakers, carrying placards and chanting slogans against the increase in petroleum prices, rode donkey carts from an area near the assembly building to its main gate. PTI lawmaker Sajjad Soomro said

that the protest was aimed at highlighting the impact of rising fuel prices on the public.

"Petrol has become so expensive that we cannot come to the assembly in our vehicles," he said. The PTI members demanded that the government withdraw the increase in petroleum prices and provide relief to consumers. The protest came as the Sindh Assembly convened for its Friday sitting at 3pm.

According to the official agenda, the session included questions and answers relating to the Universities and Boards Department, three call-attention notices concerning drinking



water problems in Latifabad and Hyderabad, difficulties faced by University of Sindh students seeking admission to third-year classes, and measures to improve the Cardiac Medical Centre in Landhi.

The agenda also included an adjournment motion concerning the poor maintenance of pedestrian bridges and consideration of the Sindh

Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2026. The fuel-price protest follows growing concern among lawmakers over the rising cost of petroleum products.

Earlier this week, the Sindh Assembly unanimously adopted an opposition resolution calling on the federal government to abolish the petroleum levy. The resolution was moved by Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Muhammad Farooq, while Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ziaul Hasan Lanjar said the matter fell within the federal government's jurisdiction.



A female student of Government College University Faisalabad (GCUF) crosses the finish line to win the 10-kilometre race during International Sports Day at the university

Mir Raza case: Judicial commission seeks written replies from senior police officers

STAFF REPORTER
KARACHI

The judicial commission formed to investigate the Mir Raza case has decided to seek written responses from senior police officers instead of summoning them for questioning. The commission has issued an order detailing the proceedings of its hearing held the previous day. According to the order, the commission recorded the statement of former investigating officer Shabbir Laghari during the proceedings and also heard the position of Ahmed, Mir Raza's business partner.

The order said Ahmed sought time to meet and speak with Mir Raza's family. After speaking with the family, he may submit any additional statement through an affidavit. The statement submitted through the



affidavit will also be made available to the public. According to the order, the daily diaries of Ferozabad and Gulistan-e-Johar police stations were received by the commission in sealed condition. However, the statements of witnesses related to the daily diaries had unfortunately already been recorded. The commission returned the daily diaries in the same condition to the Sindh government's focal person. It also appreciated the CEO and divisional head of a private bank for their cooperation with the commission.