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Pakistan, Turkiye vow to deepen multifaceted cooperation

APP

ISTANBUL: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Government and people of Türkiye for their unwavering support to Pakistan during the recent developments in South Asia.

He said this during his warm and most cordial meeting with the President of the Republic of Türkiye, Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Istanbul today.

The Prime Minister lauded Türkiye's principled stance and the outpouring support of goodwill of the Turkish people for Pakistan and termed it as a source of great comfort and strength for Pakistan.

He highlighted the commitment and courage and the spirit of sacrifice of the armed forces of Pakistan and the resolute patriotism of the people of Pakistan that was demonstrated in an unprecedented manner which contributed greatly to Pakistan's overwhelming victory in Marak-e-Haq and Operation Bunyanum Marsoos in the defense of homeland.

Shehbaz Sharif emphasized the need to further strengthen economic cooperation, particularly through joint ventures and enhanced bilateral investment.

The Prime Minister highlighted key sectors including renewable energy, Information Technology, defense production, infrastructure development, and agriculture as areas of mutual interest and potential.

The two leaders conducted a comprehensive review of the entire spectrum of bilat-

eral relations and reiterated their resolve to elevate the strategic partnership to greater heights.

They also followed up on the implementation of key decisions taken during the seventh session of the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council, held in Islamabad on 13 February 2025.

Both sides agreed to take steps for achieving five billion dollars annual bilateral trade target as agreed earlier by the two leaders.

In addition to bilateral issues, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Erdogan reaffirmed their principled support for each other's core concerns, including the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

They also expressed deep concern over the grave humanitarian situation in Gaza, urgently calling for an immediate ceasefire and unimpeded humanitarian access to the affected Palestinian population.

The engagement reaffirmed the deep-rooted, historic, and brotherly ties between Pakistan and Türkiye, anchored in shared values, mutual respect, and a common vision for progress and prosperity.

The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment to further deepen the multifaceted cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye. The two leaders pledged to continue working closely for regional peace, sustainable development, and the shared prosperity of their peoples. Turkish President Erdogan also hosted dinner in honour of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the accompanying delegation.



Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan hold a delegation-level meeting at Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul, Türkiye.

Peace is our priority but will respond more strongly if provoked: DG ISPR

"Behind every terrorist act in Pakistan, in Balochistan or elsewhere, is India's hand," says Lt Gen Chaudhry

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry has warned that any future aggression against the country would be met with a "more severe" response, while reiterating that it remains committed to peace.

"We are peace-loving and give priority to peace. It is our first choice. But if you make this mistake again, our response will be even more intense," he said on Saturday while addressing a special session attended by over 2,500 students from various universities of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, the ISPR said in a statement.

The event, held in a festive atmosphere marked by nationalist slogans and songs, drew loud chants of "Long live the Pakistan Army" and "Kashmir will become Pakistan." Students

waved national flags and voiced support for the military.

Chaudhry said Pakistan's armed forces had previously responded decisively to Indian air raids, including retaliatory strikes on 26 targets. He referenced the death of a young boy in Muzaffarabad, saying the brigade headquarters responsible for the attack was "destroyed."

"Our aircraft targeted only military infrastructure," he said. "We did not strike any civilian population, infrastructure, or place of worship because we believe in peace."

The army spokesperson also accused India of being behind various militant activities in Pakistan, including unrest in Balochistan and attacks by extremist groups. "Behind every terrorist act in Pakistan, whether in Balochistan or elsewhere, is India's hand," he said.

Khuzdar school bus attack death toll rises to 10

NEWS DESK

RAWALPINDI: Two more students, Sheema Ibrahim and Muskan, embraced martyrdom while receiving treatment in Quetta, raising the number of students martyred in the recent terrorist attack on a school bus in Khuzdar, Balochistan, to eight, according to security sources. The total death toll has risen to 10.

Security officials confirmed that among those martyred are seven female students and one male student.

On the day of the suicide bombing, Sania Soomro (Grade 6), Hafsa Kausar (Grade 7), and Ayesha Saleem (Grade 10) were among the first to embrace martyrdom.

Later, Haider, Malaika, and Sehr Saleem also succumbed to their injuries while receiving medical treatment, security officials said.

According to intelligence sources, the attack was planned and sponsored by the terrorist state of India.

"The blood of these innocent children will not go unavenged. Those behind this — including the Indian handlers and their local agents — will be held accountable," security officials stated.

Security forces kill nine Indian-sponsored terrorists in KP operations

APP

RAWALPINDI: The security forces killed nine Indian-sponsored terrorists in three separate engagements in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, said ISPR.

According to the military's media wing, an intelligence-based operation was conducted by the security forces in Dera Ismail Khan, on the reported presence of Indian sponsored khwarj. During the operation, own troops effectively engaged the khwarj location, and after an intense fire exchange, four Indian-sponsored khwarj were killed.

Another intelligence-based operation was conducted in Tank district and in ensuing fire

exchange, two more Indian-sponsored khwarj were killed by the security forces.

In the third encounter that took place in general area Bagh, Khyber district, own troops successfully neutralised three more Indian-sponsored khwarj.

Weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed Indian-sponsored khwarj, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities in these areas.

Sanitisation operations are being conducted to eliminate any other terrorist found in the area, as the security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of Indian-sponsored terrorism from the country.

Govt to launch operation against illegal constructions in Islamabad

APP

ISLAMABAD: The government has decided to launch an immediate operation against illegal constructions in Islamabad, including action against unauthorized houses.

The decision was taken during a high-level meeting chaired by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi in Islamabad on Sunday.

During the meeting, the Interior Minister also ordered a crackdown against illegal housing societies. He emphasized that zero-tolerance policy must be enforced by the concerned officers in this regard.

He said that satellite mapping through the Land Information and Management System (LIMS) should be utilized to prevent all

types of illegal constructions.

Mohsin Naqvi stressed that providing world-class facilities to the residents of Islamabad should be the top priority for all officials.

He said that no effort should be spared in ensuring the safety of life and property.

He instructed all the concerned SPs and ACs to perform their duties actively and said that the image of the police and administration in the capital must be improved.

He encouraged officers to introduce new initiatives for public service, assuring full support in the implementation.

The Interior Minister emphasized the need to carry forward this process with full commitment and a national spirit in order to achieve the desired results.

Bravery, professionalism of Pakistan's armed forces acknowledged globally: Gillani

INP

LAHORE: Senate Chairman Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani has said that during the recent Indian provocations, the entire Pakistani nation, along with all political parties, demonstrated exemplary unity, which played a pivotal role in delivering a strong and effective national response to the enemy.

Talking to the media after visiting the International Solar Energy Exhibition at the Expo Centre, here on Sunday, he said that the bravery and professionalism of Pakistan's armed forces are acknowledged globally. He stressed that despite being a nuclear power, Pakistan responded to Indian provocations with restraint and strategic maturity. "Pakistan's measured and well-thought-out response has earned global recognition for its wisdom and composure," he said.

Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani extended heartfelt congratulations to the entire nation for

demonstrating unity and playing a vital role in shaping a cohesive national response. "The credit for our firm and peaceful strategy goes to the leadership, armed forces, and the unity of all political stakeholders," he added.

He said Pakistan remains steadfast in its commitment to peace and dialogue, consistently prioritizing negotiations over confrontation in resolving regional issues. "We have never taken any action that would threaten the stability of the region," he said.

To a question on Balochistan, he recalled that during his tenure as Prime Minister, he had clearly highlighted India's involvement in sponsoring terrorism and unrest in the province. "At that time, I presented evidence to international forums and even Bollywood produced a film, The Accidental Prime Minister, which indirectly hinted at Indian policy contradictions. This led India to show willingness to engage in dialogue on core issues like Siachen, Kashmir, and interference in Balochistan," he said.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi chairing a high-level meeting.

Lahore Qalandars crush Quetta Gladiators to become HBL PSL X Champions

Hasan, Faheem fire as Gladiators post 201/9, but Perera's 66 off 31 seals Qalandars' third PSL title in thriller

NEWS DESK

LAHORE: Lahore Qalandars clinched their third HBL PSL title in dramatic fashion, chasing down 202 in the final over to beat Quetta Gladiators in a high-octane final at the Gaddafi Stadium on Sunday.

The architect of the win was Sri Lanka's Kusal Perera, whose nerveless, explosive hitting at the death turned the tide after the match had tilted firmly in Gladiators' favour.

Chasing a daunting 202, Qalandars got off to a blazing start with their openers smashing 39 runs in the first three overs, including 23 off a single Faheem Ashraf over. But the introduction of spin brought Quetta back into the game as Abrar Ahmed struck with his second delivery, removing Fakhar Zaman.

Mohammad Naeem was given a life on 30 when Usman Tariq dropped a straightforward chance off Mohammad Amir. The opener capitalised, putting together a 46-run stand with Abdullah Shafique before falling to Ashraf for a 27-ball 46 that featured six towering sixes.

Shafique kept the momentum going with a fluent 41, taking the score to 115, but his dismissal — courtesy of Tariq — triggered a slowdown.

With Bhanuka Rajapaksa struggling at one end, scoring 14

off 16 balls, the required rate climbed steeply. At one point, Lahore needed 57 off the final 20 deliveries, and Quetta looked to have the upper hand.

But Perera had other plans. Unleashing his experience and power, he launched into Quetta's bowlers, including a crucial assault on Mohammad Amir in the 19th over. Sikandar Raza supported him from the other end as Lahore capitalised on some sloppy fielding and wayward bowling in the death overs.

The Qalandars completed the chase in the final over, sparking celebrations as they lifted the trophy for the third time in PSL history.

Earlier, after winning the toss and bat first, Hasan Nawaz's explosive knock of 76 helped Quetta Gladiators post a formidable total of 201.

The Gladiators didn't get the start they had hoped for, as skipper Saud Shakeel was dismissed in unfortunate fashion behind the stumps — paying the price for the absence of DRS in the final, with replays suggesting the ball had not touched his bat before reaching Kusal Perera's gloves.



Matters worsened in the next over when the in-form Salman Mirza claimed the prized wicket of New Zealand's Finn Allen, leaving Quetta struggling at 21/2.

However, Rilee Rossouw and the young Hasan Nawaz stabilized the innings, guiding the team through the power-play without further loss and taking the score to 58.

Rossouw, who had earlier scored a century in the tournament, looked in good touch again. But Sikandar Raza — who arrived from England just

10 minutes before the toss — struck with the second ball of his spell, dismissing the South African for 22. Dramatic scenes unfolded in the 12th over when a nasty collision in the deep between Mohammad Naeem and Asif Ali, while attempting to stop a boundary, forced Asif to leave the field. He was eventually ruled out of the match, with Mohammad Akhlaq coming in as a concussion substitute

Anti-polio campaign will kick off across Balochistan from today

APP

QUETTA: A province-wide anti-polio campaign will kick off across Balochistan from tomorrow (Monday) aiming to immunize over 2.66 million children under the age of five, announced Inam-ul-Haq, Coordinator of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Balochistan.

In a statement issued to the media, Inam-ul-Haq said that the seven-day campaign is a vital step in the ongoing fight against poliovirus, which remains a threat in the region due to recent detections of cases and environmental samples testing positive for the virus. He urged parents to ensure their children are vaccinated, warning that failure to do so could result in lifelong disability.

As part of the campaign, children will also receive Vitamin A supplements, which help strengthen immunity and reduce the risk of illness. Inam-ul-Haq emphasized that all preparations have been finalized, and teams are fully mobilized across urban and remote areas of the province.

A total of 11,659 teams will be deployed during the campaign, including 9,129 mobile teams, 958 fixed-site teams, and 586 teams at transit points such as bus stands and railway stations. The campaign's success, he stressed, depends heavily on community support.

He called on civil society members, teachers, and religious leaders to play their part in raising awareness and encouraging families to participate.

In addition to polio vaccination, Inam-ul-Haq reminded parents about the importance of routine immunization, which protects children from 12 vaccine-preventable diseases, including measles, tuberculosis, hepatitis B, and diphtheria. He encouraged parents to visit their nearest health center to ensure their children receive all scheduled vaccines on time.

DPM phones Uzbek FM, discuss bilateral ties

APP

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar today held a telephone conversation with the Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan, Saidov Bakhtiyor Odilovich.

During the conversation, the two leaders discussed existing bilateral relations, particularly Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan Railway Line Project.

They expressed the hope that framework agreement for the regional connectivity project will be finalized soon.

Views were also exchanged on current regional situation.

Govt earmarks 2,000MW to power Bitcoin mining, AI data centres

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: In a major step toward positioning Pakistan as a global digital innovation hub, the government has allocated 2,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity in the initial phase of a national plan to support Bitcoin mining and artificial intelligence (AI) data centres.

According to a statement issued by the Finance Division, the initiative is spearheaded by the Pakistan Crypto Council (PCC) — a government-backed body under the Ministry of Finance — as part of a broader strategy to monetise surplus electricity, create high-tech jobs, attract billions of dollars in foreign direct investment, and generate billions of dollars for government.

"Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb said that this strategic allocation marks a pivotal moment in Pakistan's digital transformation journey, unlocking economic potential by turning excess energy into innovation, investment, and international revenue," read the statement.

Pakistan, a country that ranked 3rd in the Global Crypto Adoption Index, has 20 million active cryptocurrency users and \$20bn+ in crypto transactions.

Currently, the country ranks in the top 10 in terms of crypto adoption. With \$35bn in annual remittances, the country is poised to benefit from crypto adoption.

In March this year, the government constituted the Pakistan Crypto Council (PCC) to "regulate and integrate blockchain technology and digital assets" into the nation's financial ecosystem.

Entrepreneur Bilal Bin Saqib was appointed as its

chief executive officer, signaling a commitment to integrating cryptocurrency and blockchain technology into the nation's financial ecosystem.

Pakistani government and played a key role in strengthening Pakistan's economy by sending foreign exchange reserves



Bureau Report

GUJRANWALA: Overseas Pakistanis are our ambassadors abroad. They have always supported the Pakistani government and played a key role in strengthening Pakistan's economy by sending foreign exchange reserves. Their enthusiastic participation in the Islamabad Overseas Convention proves their true patriotism and unwavering commitment to Pakistan's integrity and progress.

These views were expressed by *City Police Officer (CPO) Gujranwala, Rana Muhammad Ayaz Saleem, during a meeting with a delegation led by overseas Pakistani, prominent Kashmiri leader, senior journalist, and former member of the Cantonment Board Gujranwala, Khawaja Muhammad Farooq.

On this occasion, Khawaja Muhammad Farooq praised the services of *CPO Gujranwala, Muhammad Ayaz Saleem, stating that his appointment has turned Gujranwala into a haven of peace, and criminal elements have been eradicated under his leadership.

He described Rana Muhammad Ayaz Saleem as a dutiful officer and a valuable

asset to the Punjab Police, playing a pivotal role in improving law and order while strengthening ties between the public and the police.

Khawaja Muhammad Farooq also commended Rana Muhammad Ayaz Saleem for standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the Pakistan Armed Forces during the tense Pak-India war-like situation, providing full support. He admired how CPO Gujranwala* demonstrated professionalism and dedication during the crisis, leading his team from the front on every front.

Furthermore, Khawaja Muhammad Farooq announced that he would personally meet Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, and Chief Minister of Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif, to formally acknowledge CPO Gujranwala Muhammad Ayaz Saleem's contributions. He will request that the officer be awarded the Tamgha-e-Imtiaz (Medal of Excellence) for his bravery and commitment, stating, "Officers like him are our pride."

Khawaja Muhammad Farooq also extended a special invitation to Rana Muhammad Ayaz Saleem* to visit the *United States, assuring him that he and the Pakistani community in America would always remember his services in golden words. At the end of the meeting, overseas Pakistanis Khawaja Muhammad Farooq and Khawaja Muhammad Shabbir* presented CPO Gujranwala with a floral bouquet and expressed their best wishes for him.



ISTANBUL: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Turkiye's Minister for National Defence, Yasar Guler upon his arrival at airport.

Inauguration of "Almas Bashir Research and Editorial Office" at Punjab Institute of Neurosciences (PINS) Establishing this facility will be a milestone in expanding research activities: Prof. Asif Bashir

By Maqsood Khalid

Lahore: The "Almas Bashir Research and Editorial Office" has been officially inaugurated at the Punjab Institute of Neurosciences (PINS). The inauguration ceremony was graced by the chief guest Dr. Almas Bashir, Executive Director of PINS Prof. Asif Bashir, Principal of Ameer-ud-Din Medical College Prof. Dr. Farooq Afzal, along with senior professors and a large number of health professionals, attended the event.

In his address, Prof. Asif Bashir stated that PINS is striving to provide top-quality medical facilities to its patients through collaborations with

international institutions. He added that the establishment of the Almas Bashir Research and Editorial Office is a significant step toward expanding the institution's research endeavors and will prove to be a milestone in its journey.

Prof. Dr. Farooq Afzal, Principal of AMC, said that countries that have advanced in the field of medicine have done so by heavily investing in medical research. He emphasized that Pakistan is not lacking in talent; therefore, instead of relying on others, we must move toward self-reliance. Advancing research in every professional and healthcare domain is crucial for this purpose.

Prof. Asif Bashir stressed the



importance of research in the field of neurosciences, saying that PINS is continuously progressing in neurosurgery. God willing, our surgeons and medical professionals will continue to make the nation proud.

CM puts admin on high alert amid forecast for heavy rainfall

APP

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has directed the provincial administration and rescue departments to remain on high alert in view of the forecast of heavy rainfall and potential storms.

The CM issued urgent instructions following reports of torrential downpours that inundated low-lying areas of Rawalpindi and other cities. Taking immediate notice of the situation, CM Maryam Nawaz instructed administrative officers to implement prompt and effective meas-

ures to mitigate the impact of the heavy rain. In particular, she ordered emergency drainage operations in the affected low-lying areas of Rawalpindi to prevent further water accumulation.

The CM further directed Wasa (Water and Sanitation Agency) officials in Rawalpindi to be physically present in the field and to mobilize all available resources to ensure rapid water drainage.

Emphasising the importance of timely response, she underscored the need for coordinated action to safeguard public life and property.



QUETTA: Residents of PB-44 Sabzal road filling their water posts from raod side tap.

No peace in South Asia without just resolution of Kashmir dispute: APHC

INP

ISLAMABAD: All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) Sunday said that clouds of war will remain hovering on the horizon of South Asia as long as the Kashmir dispute, the oldest one on the UN agenda is not resolved in the light of UN Security Council resolutions and in accordance with the wishes of the Kashmiri people.

According to Kashmir Media Service, APHC vice Chairman Ghulam Ahmad Gulzar in a statement in Srinagar terming the Kashmir dispute a major impediment to stability and progress in South Asia said that in order to avert the looming catastrophe, this issue must be resolved permanently on the basis of justice without any further delay. Gulzar said it is not only a significant bottleneck, hindering the bilat-

eral relationship between India and Pakistan, but also has a catastrophic impact on the lives of ill-fated Kashmiris who have been subjected to violence for nearly eight decades. APHC vice chairman said that the Kashmir issue is an Apple of discord and a major source of tension, wars and political and economic instability. "The present standoff between India and Pakistan has again proved that it is a volcano and, if neglected, may potentially lead to nuclear war in the region," he warned. Terming just the resolution of this core issue a prerequisite, he said that the Kashmir issue is not a territorial or border dispute but a human issue relating to the well-being of millions of Kashmiris.

Demanding justice for hapless Kashmiris, he warned that if this volatile issue is not resolved on the principle of justice, peace and stability will remain elusive.



Pakistan 'looking forward' to facing India at CAVA Nations League

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan are looking forward to their clash against India at the upcoming Central Asian Volleyball Association Nations League with skipper Murad Jehan stating his side will do its best to win against their bitter rivals.

The tournament was due to be held in Pakistan before it was shifted to Uzbekistan after India's refusal to send its team and will run from May 29 to June 4.

"Our team has some very good professional players and we are confident of defeating India with a big margin ... we're looking forward to it," Jehan told Dawn on the sidelines of a news conference at the Pakistan Sports Complex on Friday, which was also attended by Pakistan Volleyball Federation chairman Mohammad Yaqoob.

Pakistan will defend their crown at the Nations League and Yaqoob said the PVF was taking every possible step for the promotion of the sport in the country and ensuring participation of the national teams in international events despite limited resources.

"We need stronger backing from the government authorities," he told reporters, informing that along with CAVA Nations League, Pakistan's senior and age-group teams are set to participate in six other international tournaments this year.

"It is a reflection of the commitment of the PVF ... our senior, under-19 and under-16 teams are undergoing training to produce better results in upcoming international events."

Participation in international events would not only boost skills of players but will also raise Pakistan's profile in the global volleyball community.

After the Nations League, the senior team will take part in the Asian Volleyball Confederation Nations Cup in Bahrain from June 17 to 24 while Russia are due to visit for a three-match series later in the same month.

The Under-19 team, meanwhile, is gearing up for the FIVB U-19 World Championship in Uzbekistan from July 24 to Aug 3 while the Under-16 side is due to take part in the CAVA U-16 Championship in Uzbekistan, that runs from June 10 to 16, and the Asian U16 Volleyball Championship in Thailand from July 20 to 27.

Pakistan are also due to send the volleyball team to the Asian Youth Games in Bahrain in October with Yaqoob informing that both the men's and women's team will be in action during November's Islamic Solidarity Games in Saudi Arabia.



Liverpool's Egyptian striker #11 Mohamed Salah controls the ball during the English Premier League football match between Brighton and Hove Albion and Liverpool at the American Express Community Stadium in Brighton, southern England.

Salah voted Premier League player of the season

SPORTS DESK

LONDON: Mohamed Salah has been voted Premier League player of the season for the second time after a stellar individual campaign inspired Liverpool's march to a record-equalling 20th English title while his team-mate Ryan Gravenberch was named the young player of the season.

Salah scored 28 goals — five more than anyone else — and provided 18 assists to guide the Anfield club to the title, with Arne Slot's side winning it with four games to spare. Having also earned the award in 2017-18, Salah became only the fifth player to win it twice after Thierry Henry, Cristiano Ronaldo, Nemanja Vidic and Kevin De Bruyne. The 32-year-old Egyptian is on course to win another Golden Boot for most goals in a season and is five strikes ahead of Newcastle United striker Alexander Isak going into the final day of the season on Sunday.

No player before has had 46 goal involvements in a 38-game season and Salah could even break the record of 47 held by Alan Shearer and Andrew Cole, who achieved the feat in a 42-game campaign, when Liverpool host Crystal Palace at Anfield.

Salah is two assists off the single-season record held by Henry and De Bruyne and with six more assists than any other player, he can become the first footballer to win the Golden Boot, Golden Playmaker and player of the season awards.

He has broken the run of Manchester City players win-

ning the award for the past four seasons.

Salah's teammate Virgil van Dijk was the last non-City player to win the award in 2018/19.

Van Dijk — who like Salah signed a new contract with Liverpool earlier in the campaign — was one of the players Salah beat in the voting.

The others were Gravenberch, Arsenal's Declan Rice, Nottingham Forest's Morgan Gibbs-White, Newcastle striker Isak, Brentford talisman Bryan Mbeumo, and Chris Wood of Nottingham Forest.

Earlier this month, Salah was named the Football Writers' Association player of the year, securing almost 90 percent of the votes, marking the biggest winning margin this century.

GRAVENBERCH NAMED BEST YOUNGSTER
Gravenberch became one of the first names on the team sheet under Slot, who deployed the Dutchman as a deep-lying midfielder, and the 23-year-old has become a crucial part of Liverpool's spine, making 36 appearances this season.

His versatility to shield Liverpool's back line has come to the fore this season while his ability to quickly initiate attacks, cutting out passing lanes and winning back possession, has made him indispensable.

No midfielder has made more interceptions this season than Gravenberch (59).

He is also the second Liverpool player to win the youngsters' award after Trent Alexander-Arnold won it in 2019-20, the season it was introduced.

Stars down Conquerors for National Women's T20 title

SPORTS DESK

KARACHI: Sidra Amin's Stars clinched the National Women's T20 Tournament title with a commanding 42-run victory over Fatima Sana's Conquerors at the National Bank Stadium.

After opting to bat first in the decider, Stars posted 135-5 thanks to opener Sana Urooj's brisk 37-ball 44 before they bundled the Conquerors out for 93 with two balls to spare with Anosha Nasir taking 3-14.

Sana and Anosha were jointly awarded the player-of-the-final.

Sana set the tone for her side, striking seven fours and being involved in key partnerships: 33 for the first wicket with Huraina Sajjad (23) and 47 for the third with Kaynat Hafeez (21).

Kaynat provided the anchor, striking just one six in her 35-ball knock with their partnership being broken when Nashra Sandhu (2-21) cleaned up Sana.

Sidra Amin and Sidra Nawaz provided the late flourish, the skipper striking four fours in her 13-ball 18 while the latter faced 11 deliveries for 15.

The Conquerors lost half their side with 80 on the board in the chase and their last five batters couldn't offer any resistance as Anosha and Waheeda Akhtar (2-17) ripped through their line-up.

Dua Majid (29), Najiha Alvi (21) and Syeda Aroob Shah (14) were the only batters to enter double figures — the last two sharing a 30-run stand for the fifth wicket.

Sidra Amin, with 346 runs in 10 matches, and Sidra Nawaz, with 15 dismissals and 150 runs, were named the best batter and wicket-keeper respectively for the tournament. Anosha was jointly-awarded the best bowler with Challengers' Rameen Shamim, who picked up a tournament-leading 16 wickets.



KARACHI: Stars' players celebrate with the trophy after winning the final of the National Women's T20 Tournament at the National Bank Stadium.

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Lessons from history

THE tragic events of 1971 were a watershed moment — one of many — in Pakistan’s troubled history, when the nation conceived by the founding fathers was rent asunder by a brutal civil war, and later Indian involvement.

In the aftermath of the recent hostilities with India, several references have been made to 1971 by the prime minister himself. On Thursday, while on a visit to Azad Kashmir, Shehbaz Sharif said that Operation Bunyanum Marsoos was “divine retribution” for 1971. Earlier, while visiting troops in Pasrur last week, he asserted that the military had “avenged” the 1971 war.

While staunch defence of the country and the ability to fend off unwarranted Indian aggression are indeed something to be thankful for, we must not let triumphalism and hyperbole cloud our view of history, particularly of an event as traumatic as the separation of the eastern wing.

The fact is that we have not had any national-level reckoning of the separation of East Pakistan, and the creation of Bangladesh. Resultantly, our rulers have, over the decades, continued to make the same mistakes that were made in the lead-up to the 1971 war. Political disputes in the former eastern wing were dealt with through administrative and later security steps, largely because of Ayub Khan’s long spell of military rule, followed by Yahya Khan’s mishandling of the crisis, which by that time had reached existential proportions.

Politicians in both wings were not free of blame either; but the fact is that it was the martial rulers of the time who bore the ultimate responsibility for the loss of the eastern wing. No doubt, India played an extremely damaging role, meddling in what was essentially Pakistan’s internal matter and abetted the break-up. Considering these grim facts, is it apt for Mr Sharif to describe the recent thwarting of India’s hostile designs as revenge for the loss of East Pakistan?

Instead of evoking triumphalism, the latest clash with India requires Pakistan to soberly reflect on both its internal and external challenges. Defence of the country is non-negotiable, and the administration along with the armed forces must remain vigilant.

Yet it is equally important to face our internal challenges with sagacity and determination. Amongst the foremost of these is countering the wave of terrorism afflicting the nation, as well as reviving the economy. Internal political reconciliation is also essential. In short, there is much work to be done.

Once we put Pakistan on the path to prosperity, where its people have health, education and sufficient employment, where constitutional protections are extended to each citizen, and there is peace in the larger neighbourhood, we can say that the losses of the past have been ‘avenged,’ and that Pakistan has risen.

By Barrister Usman Ali, Ph.D.

Beyond Roots: Pakistani Canadians Driving Innovation and Impact

Canada’s 2021 census counted 303,260 Canadians of Pakistani descent, 41 percent more than in 2016 and almost double the 2011 total. What began with a handful of post-Partition students and engineers in the late 1940s has blossomed into one of the country’s most dynamic immigrant communities. Once clustered in Toronto and Montréal, Pakistan-born newcomers and their children now live in every province. Their story is no longer one of tentative arrival; it is one of nation-building, fueled by academic achievement, entrepreneurial verve, and civic engagement that extends far beyond the halal grocers of Thorncliffe Park and Côte-des-Neiges.

Since Ottawa introduced its points-based system in 1967, Pakistan has remained a top-ten source of new arrivals, supplying roughly ten thousand permanent residents a year through family-reunification, skilled-worker and international-student streams. The diaspora is unusually young: the median age is just under thirty, promising a demographic dividend for decades.

Education is its sharpest asset. More than half of very recent immigrants from Pakistan hold at least a bachelor’s degree, well above the newcomer average, and most of those qualifications are in science, technology, engineering or health. Pakistani-Canadian professionals now staff hospital wards from Hamilton to Halifax and lead software teams from Kitchener-Waterloo to Calgary. Yet a stubborn credential-recognition gap persists: over a quarter of new immigrant degree-holders still work in jobs that need only high-school qualifications, nearly double the rate for Canadian-born graduates. Ontario’s Fair Access legislation and Alberta’s bridging paths for nurses and engineers are steps in the right direction, but a coherent national fix has yet to emerge.

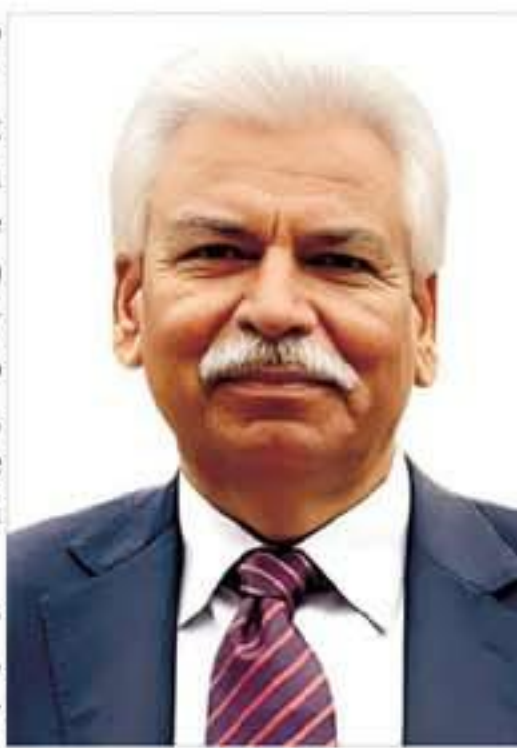
Economic gains have produced an outsized entrepreneurial and philanthropic footprint. Pakistani-run trucking fleets criss-cross the Prairies, halal processors export certified meat to Asia, and software firms such as Confiz employ hundreds of Canadian graduates. In 2020, a group of Muslim donors, led by Pakistani-Canadian philanthropist Abdul Qayyum Mufti, championed by businessman Nadeem Chaudhry, and joined by community leaders and the wider public,

pledged \$5 million to redevelop Trillium Health Partners’ Mississauga Hospital, the largest Muslim hospital gift in Canadian history. The new wing will be named the “Muhammad (pbuh) Block” in honour of the holy Prophet. The donation is meant to give something back to Canada, so that future generations can take pride in a country that has given the community so much.

Political engagement has grown just as quickly. Forty years ago, immigration forums and parent-teacher councils were the main arenas; today Pakistani-Canadians occupy ministerial offices. In the April 2025 federal election more than fifty candidates of Pakistani origin ran for parties across the spectrum, with six Liberals ultimately elected. Prime Minister Mark Carney cemented the breakthrough by appointing Shafqat Ali president of the Treasury Board, the first Pakistani-Canadian in cabinet. Many others already serve in provincial legislatures from Queen’s Park to the Alberta and British Columbia assemblies, confirming that Pakistani Canadians are now permanent actors, not guests or merely observers, in the country’s public life.

Youth are already pushing the frontier. Teenagers dominate Ontario Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) podiums, Waterloo hackathons and Québec’s Formula-Electric pits; University of Toronto students are using artificial intelligence to streamline halal-certification audits, while Calgary high-schoolers test solar-powered irrigation kits for flood-hit Sindh. More than a thousand Pakistani-Canadian youths contributed to federal policy sprints in 2024, bringing urgent insight into mental health, housing and climate resilience.

Challenges remain. Police-reported hate crimes against South Asians rose 143 percent between 2019 and 2022. Greater Toronto Area housing prices have doubled over the past decade, squeezing multigenerational households and intensifying mental-health pressures on elders, even as the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) rolls out Urdu- and Punjabi-adapted cognitive-behavioral therapy. Within the community, partisan rifts, often imported from Pakistan’s political turmoil,



can still flare up in local associations and other organizations.

Even so, the pragmatism and generosity that characterised earlier arrivals remain powerful assets. Closing the credential gap is the first priority. A united coalition of Pakistani professional associations can press every province to create affordable bridging courses, streamlined assessments, and firm, time-bound licensing pathways. Civic-leadership pipelines must also expand by turning ad hoc mentorships into year-round programs that connect youth and mid-career professionals with elected officials, senior public servants, and board chairs, embedding Pakistani-Canadian voices in decision-making rooms.

Although many community organizations are already active, volunteer hours from cultural centres should likewise be channelled into national charities, such as food banks, Habitat for Humanity builds, and Big Brothers Big Sisters, so that service is understood as Canadian first and ethnic second. Entrepreneurship must move beyond enclave markets; Pakistani-led firms need stronger links to accelerators such as Communitech, MaRS and Platform Calgary so they can commercialize intellectual-property-driven products for global markets. Controlling the narrative is equally important. Encouraging more Pakistani-Canadian journalists, podcasters, and filmmakers, while proactively pitching positive stories to CBC, CTV, and major newspapers, will counter lingering stereotypes and imported partisan fights. Targeted investment in language and soft skills, accent-neutral communication, Canadian workplace norms, and executive presentation, can speed progression into senior management. Finally, deliberately mixed forums on housing, climate, and innovation that bring together political, sectarian, and linguistic strands will turn internal rivalries into collaborative problem-solving. If these efforts advance in tandem, Pakistani-Canadians will not merely integrate; they will help shape an even more dynamic, inclusive Canada in the decade ahead.

By Dr. Hamid Khan AlMashriqi

An Open Challenge to Shashi Tharoor: Addressing the Distortion of Facts and Propaganda

In light of the recent press conference by Shashi Tharoor in New York, it has become imperative to respond to the gross misrepresentation of facts, half-truths, and deliberate distortions presented on a global platform. Mr. Tharoor, once revered for his intellectual prowess and firm stance against colonial injustices, especially the atrocities of the British Raj, has unfortunately compromised his credibility by becoming a vocal apologist for the Modi regime—an administration accused of stoking nationalism, communal divisions, and undermining democratic norms. His recent comments not only reflect a worrying trend of misinformation but also demonstrate a complete disregard for historical context, geopolitical realities, and most importantly, the truth. It is essential that we address the key claims he made, point by point, to expose the flawed narrative he presented.

1. False Accusations of Terrorism Support by Pakistan.

Mr. Tharoor accused Pakistan of supporting terrorism—a narrative that has long been pushed by certain Indian officials without concrete evidence. Pakistan has consistently been a frontline state in the global war on terror. Over 90,000 civilians and more than 12,000 personnel from Pakistan’s military, paramilitary, and police forces have sacrificed their lives in counter-terror operations. These are not mere statistics—they are a testament to Pakistan’s commitment and resilience. Furthermore, the claims that Pakistan supports terror organizations have repeatedly failed to hold ground at international forums, not due to political maneuvering but due to lack of tangible proof. China, in particular, has sought credible evidence before endorsing any sanctions against groups India labels as terrorist—a nuance Mr. Tharoor conveniently ignored.

2. The Pahalgam Incident: Misrepresenting the Kashmir Reality

In relation to the tragic attack in Pahalgam, Indian illegally occupied Kashmir, Mr. Tharoor claimed that the attack specifically targeted Hindus based on religion. This assertion is factually incorrect. Among those killed were also Muslims, underscoring that the attack was not driven solely by religious animosity. Moreover, Pahalgam is a heavily militarized and elite Hindu tourist zone, rarely accessible to local Kashmiri Muslims. The portrayal of the incident as communal is not

just misleading—it dangerously fuels sectarian divisions. Mr. Tharoor also failed to highlight the widespread human rights violations that followed. The Indian forces launched massive crackdowns in the region after the incident, arresting thousands of young Kashmiris, many without due process, continuing a long pattern of state repression under the guise of national security.

3. Fabricated Claims About Admission of Responsibility

Tharoor stated that a terrorist organization had admitted responsibility for the Pahalgam attack on social media—specifically on



Twitter. Yet, no such public admission or verifiable evidence has surfaced. This is yet another example of pushing unverified narratives to justify aggressive military responses.

4. Misrepresentation of the May 6–7 Airstrikes One of the most alarming lies from Mr. Tharoor was his claim that Indian airstrikes on the night of May 6–7 targeted only so-called terrorist camps. In reality, Indian air strikes hit a school, a public library, a medical nursery, private homes, and two mosques. Among the dead were women (ranging in age from 22 to 80 years), elderly men, and 12 children, including infants. This cannot be classified as a “precision strike”—it was an unprovoked offensive targeting civilians in clear violation of international laws and sovereignty of Pakistan. 5. Pakistan’s Defensive Response: A Showcase of Military Readiness Despite Indian aggression, Pakistan responded defensively but decisively. On the same night, over 40 Pakistani fighter jets responded to over 100 Indian jets, bringing down:

- 3 Rafale jets
- 2 MiG-29s
- 1 Mirage fighter jet
- Followed by 80 plus Israeli made

drones in next three days from 6th to 9th May. These losses were reported by several international observers but ignored by Indian media and officials. Mr. Tharoor, in echoing the claims of India’s propagandist “Godi media,” conveniently omitted these facts.

6. Ceasefire and the Truth Behind India’s Diplomacy Shashi Tharoor also falsely claimed that Pakistan requested a ceasefire after suffering major damage. The reality is quite the opposite. Following India’s airstrikes on nine Pakistani military and airbase installations—causing only minor damage—Pakistan launched a calculated and

powerful counterattack. Pakistan successfully targeted 26 Indian military sites, including:

- Udhampur Air Base
- Delhi Air Base
- Multiple S-400 defense installations

• Strategic military communication hubs Simultaneously, Pakistan demonstrated its cyber warfare capabilities by paralyzing over 70% of India’s electricity grid system, taking down 300+ websites, disabling thousands of surveillance cameras, and disrupting several major broadcast

networks. These actions showcased not only Pakistan’s preparedness but its superiority in both traditional and digital warfare. 7. Diplomatic Hypocrisy and the Need for a Rebuttal In the face of humiliation, Indian leadership reportedly reached out to U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance and President Donald Trump, pleading for mediation and a halt to Pakistan’s counteroffensive. This diplomatic scramble further exposes the false bravado presented in Mr. Tharoor’s press conference. Conclusion: A Call for Truth and Diplomacy Pakistan has always advocated for peace and regional stability. However, it will not remain silent in the face of aggression, propaganda, or attempts to undermine its sovereignty. Mr. Tharoor’s speech represents not diplomacy, but dangerous misinformation. It is now incumbent upon Pakistan’s Foreign Office and international delegates to counter these lies with a unified, fact-based, and articulate diplomatic response. Only through truth, transparency, and strategic engagement can we ensure that fabricated narratives are discredited and regional peace is preserved. Pakistan has shown its might on the battlefield, and now it must assert its voice on the global stage.



DAILY MIRROR

Minister Junaid Anwar Chaudhry unveils Scholarship Initiative for Coastal Communities

APP

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry has announced the launch of the Maritime Educational Endowment Fund (MEEF) to provide scholarships to coastal communities' deserving and talented children.

In a statement on Sunday, the minister stated that the MEEF aims to promote inclusive development by enabling access to quality education for youth from over 70 coastal and fishing communities, particularly in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan. "This initiative will help cultivate a skilled maritime workforce essential for the country's future," he noted.

He said the creation of the fund is based on recommendations of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Maritime Affairs, reflects the government's broader commitment to education-driven empowerment in coastal regions.

"The Maritime Educational Endowment Fund underscores our dedication to sustainable human capital development," said Junaid Anwar Chaudhry. "By investing in coastal youth today, we are laying the foundation for a resilient and prosperous maritime sector tomorrow."

To finance the MEEF, the Ministry will restructure Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions from organizations operating under its jurisdiction. This redirection of CSR resources aims to create a centralized and sustainable funding mechanism to support long-term educational opportunities.

The Minister also announced the formation of a dedicated oversight committee, responsible for ensuring transparency, equitable scholarship distribution, and strong monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

In its initial phase, the MEEF will target students of coastal regions, with plans to expand nationally, enabling more students across the country to benefit from the initiative. "This initiative represents our vision of an educated, empowered, and thriving maritime community," the

Minister added.

Highlighting the urgent need for intervention, Minister Chaudhry cited data from recent education surveys showing school dropout rates exceeding

40 percent among children in coastal regions—particularly in remote districts of Sindh and Balochistan due to financial constraints and inadequate educational infrastructure.

"The MEEF is more than just a scholarship programme; it is a strategic investment in the future of Pakistan's maritime sector," the Minister said.

"It symbolizes our enduring commitment to ensuring that no capable student is left behind due to economic hardship."

The launch of the MEEF marks a critical milestone in the Ministry's broader strategy to uplift coastal populations, enhance educational outcomes, and strengthen Pakistan's maritime potential through targeted investment and opportunity, he added.



LAHORE: Senate Chairman Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani Talking to the media after visiting the International Solar Energy Exhibition at the Expo Centre.

PM Grieves over Martyrdom of Children injured in Khuzdar bus attack

APP

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif Sunday expressed grief and sorrow over the martyrdom of two children who sustained injuries in a cowardly attack, on a school bus in Khuzdar, by terrorists patronized by India.

He expressed sympathy with the parents of the children.

The attack on the innocent children in a school bus by terrorists patronized by India was a self-evident proof of their animosity against education in Balochistan, he added.

He said the terrorists crossed all limits of barbarity.

"We will not rest till meting out punishment to the terrorists patronized by India," he added.

The prime minister said all possible steps will be taken to foil nefarious designs of the terrorists patronized by India to undermine peace in Balochistan.

The terrorists who targeted Pakistan's future - the small and innocent children, will meet their end, he continued.

"My and nation's sympathies are with the families of the innocent children who fell victim to the cruelty," he said adding the security forces and the government of Pakistan were determined and united for the complete elimination of terrorism from the country.

President appreciates security forces for killing Khawarij

APP

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari Sunday appreciated the security forces for killing nine Indian supported Khawarij during three different operations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

He praised the security forces for killing the nine terrorists of Fitna al-Khawarij during the intelligence based operations.

He said operations against security forces will continue till complete elimination of terrorism. He said the successful operations of the security forces against the Indian supported terrorists was commendable.

He said, "Our determination to root out terrorist elements and defend the country is unwavering."

No peace in region until peaceful solution of Kashmir dispute: Barrister Sultan

INP

ISLAMABAD: President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that the real reason for the hostility between Pakistan and India is the Kashmir dispute and until a peaceful solution to this dispute is found, the clouds of war will continue to loom over South Asia.

Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry expressed these views while giving an exclusive interview to Head of the Media and Information Literacy Center of Azerbaijan and Vice Rector of the Tele-Radio Academy AZ Television Almaz Mahmood Nasibova at Kashmir House in Islamabad.

He said the Kashmir dispute between Pakistan and India has been going on since the partition of the sub-continent. He said Jammu and Kashmir is a Muslim-majority territory but India has forcibly occupied a large part of it.

He said that Kashmir was an unresolved dispute on the agenda of the United Nations and India wanted to gain the support of the world by conducting a false flag operation in Pahalgam and blaming it on Pakistan,

but the propaganda failed and the Pakistan Army gave a befitting reply to India's aggression and destroyed its nefarious intentions.

The AJK President said the real and important party to the Kashmir dispute is the Kashmiri people. He added that the Kashmir dispute was a flashpoint between Pakistan and India and until this issue is resolved in accordance with the United Nations resolutions, there can be no guarantee of lasting peace and security in South Asia.

Barrister Sultan appealed to the international community to play a role in settling the lingering Kashmir so that permanent peace could be established in the region.

Pakistan Railways to be transformed into modern, passenger-friendly mode of transport: Minister

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi Sunday reaffirmed the government's commitment to transforming Pakistan Railways into a modern, reliable and passenger-friendly mode of transport.

"Efforts are underway to make the railway a reliable and preferred mode of travel," he said while paying an unannounced visit to Margalla Railway Station.

The minister assessed the overall facilities and engage directly with passengers and staff.

During his visit, Hanif Abbasi conducted a detailed inspection of cleanliness arrangements across the station premises and expressed satisfaction over the efforts of the staff.

He instructed station authorities to ensure that high standards of hygiene and

sanitation are consistently maintained.

Hanif Abbasi personally inspected each coach of the train stationed at the platform, evaluating onboard conditions and facilities provided to passengers.

He also took time to interact with travelers, listening attentively to their complaints and suggestions regarding railway services.

The minister held discussions with railway personnel about the quality of service and various operational challenges.

He also reviewed the progress of ongoing development projects aimed at upgrading the Margalla Station infrastructure.

The minister announced plans to introduce recreational facilities at Margalla Station and said that specially designed public restaurants are also under consideration as part of the station's future development.

PTI fails to form alliance, bring govt under pressure: Fawad

INP

LAHORE: Former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry has said the policy of PTI is ambiguous and its incumbent leadership could neither form a political alliance nor bring the government under pressure.

The former PTI leader said the PTI will have to take a step back in order to bring down political temperature, adding there is no role of Aleema Khan in politics.

"The politics of Salman Akram Raja is only of 10 months. Umer Ayub and Assad Qaiser feel themselves handicapped in the presence of Salman Akram Raja.

"Dialogue with all political parties and the establishment is necessary for political stability. Maulana Fazlur Rehman only knows Assad Qaiser in PTI. There is no pressure of the PTI on the government," Fawad Chaudhry said.

Bilawal Grieves over Loss of lives due to Torrential Rains in Punjab, Islamabad

APP

KARACHI: The Chairman of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Sunday expressed profound grief and sorrow over the loss of lives and damage to property caused by torrential rains in various areas of Islamabad and Punjab.

He extended heartfelt condolences to the families in Punjab, who lost their loved ones in rain-related incidents. He also expressed solidarity with those, whose homes and properties were damaged by the storm and heavy rainfall.

The PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari urged the Punjab government and relevant authorities to deploy all available resources to ensure equitable and effective relief efforts in the rain-affected areas. He stressed the need for a comprehensive strategy to compensate citizens for the losses caused by the downpour.

He further called for the immediate restoration of electricity and the swift drainage of water from low-lying areas.

He said that Pakistan is increasingly grappling with unpredictable and extreme weather patterns as a consequence of climate change.

While directing PPP Punjab office-bearers and workers, Bilawal called on all party members to come forward and play an active role in the ongoing relief efforts.

Pakistan warns India against stopping flow of water

INP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has denounced India's "malevolent designs" to impede the flow of water guaranteed to Pakistan under the 1960 Indus Water Treaty and called on New Delhi to refrain from stopping, diverting or restricting rivers going downstream.

Deputy permanent representative of Pakistan Ambassador Usman Jadoon while highlighting India's attempt to weaponize water told a United Nations Security Council meeting that "We will never accept any such moves". The meeting of the 15-member Council on 'Protecting Water in Armed Conflict' was convened by Slovenia, in cooperation with Algeria, Panama, Sierra Leone, and the Global Alliance to Spare Water from Armed Conflicts.

Opening the debate, Slovenia's State Secretary Melita Gabric emphasized the critical role that protecting water and related infrastructure during armed conflicts plays in safeguarding civilian lives, saying, "protection of civilians and civilian objects under international humanitarian law is non-negotiable."

In his remarks, the Pakistani envoy pointed out that attacks against water resources, related infrastructure, and denial

of access to these resources constitute a flagrant violation of established norms, and widely accepted principles, noting that the UNSC too has also reaffirmed these principles and strongly condemned the unlawful denial of such access and depriving civilians of objects indispensable to their survival. "India's decision to illegally and unilaterally suspend the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), aiming to impede the flow of water guaranteed to Pakistan under the Treaty, is a grave violation of international law, including human rights law, the treaty law and customary international law," Ambassador Jadoon said. "Troubling pronouncements by Indian leadership to 'starve the people of Pakistan' depict a highly dangerous and perverse thinking," he said. "We strongly condemn India's unlawful announcement to hold the Treaty in abeyance and call upon India to strictly abide by its legal obligations and refrain from stopping, diverting or restricting rivers that are a lifeline for 240 million people of Pakistan."

In conclusion, Ambassador Jadoon backed the calls for full compliance with the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and international human right laws, especially for protection of water resources and related infrastructure.



Commissioner Quetta and Administrator Metropolitan Corporation, Hamza Shafqat talking to media persons after lights candles and prays in memory of the children martyred in the Khuzdar incident, in Quetta

Pak American community meets with Mayor Erick Adams in presence of commissioners, police officers



MONITORING DESK

NEW YORK: It was a wonderful Pak American round table community facing issues oriented meeting with nyc Mayor Erick Adams in the presence of different

commissioners & police officers, organized by Atia Shahnaz, Muslim woman liaison, mayor's office community affairs.

Community leader ch mohd sarwar thanked the organizers and participants.

Sindh CM urges MPs to take active ownership of polio eradication campaign

INP

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has called upon all elected representatives, including Members of the National Assembly, Provincial Assembly, and local government representatives, to take active ownership of the polio eradication campaign and spearhead efforts to protect future generations from this crippling yet preventable disease.

Addressing lawmakers from both the treasury and opposition benches in a detailed letter, the Chief Minister emphasised the urgent need for unified and intensified action ahead of the upcoming National Immunisation Day, scheduled for May 26, 2025.

"Polio eradication is not merely a health priority; it is a moral imperative," the letter underscored. "The future of our children and the well-being of our communities depend on our collective resolve to rid our land of this crippling disease once and for all."

Shah highlighted that Pakistan remains one of only two countries worldwide where wild poliovirus continues to be endemic.

Alarming, 74 cases of wild poliovirus were reported nationwide in 2024, a significant increase compared to previous years. Sindh province, particularly Karachi and its northern districts,

accounted for a substantial portion of these cases.

Despite ongoing immunisation campaigns, persistent challenges remain. Many children are still missing vaccinations due to parental refusals, limited access in remote or underserved areas, and unregistered births.

The CM urged elected representatives to lead community engagement efforts, raise awareness, and support comprehensive health initiatives to overcome these obstacles.

Major actions outlined by Murad Ali Shah included ensuring complete and accurate birth registrations to identify all eligible children,

enforce rigorous routine immunisation schedules at all levels, addressing parental refusals through targeted community engagement and education, reaching missed children through innovative outreach methods, including mobile teams and local volunteers, and striving for 100 per cent immunisation coverage during every vaccination drive.

The letter also highlighted the upcoming Sub-National Immunisation Day in July, calling for sustained momentum and vigilance in the fight against polio.

"This is a moment for unity and leadership," the Chief Minister said adding, "Together, we can make history by eradicating polio from Pakistan once and for all."



QUETTA: Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami Balochistan, Molana Hidayat-ur-Rehman Baloch addressing the Youth Jirga.