

# DAILY MIRROR

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## Pakistan urges India to implement Indus Waters Treaty following Hague court's ruling

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Monday urged India to immediately resume the normal functioning of the Indus Waters Treaty, and fulfill its treaty obligations.

Earlier, the Foreign Office welcomed the Supplemental Award announced by the Court of Arbitration, vindicating Islamabad's position that the Indus Waters Treaty remains valid and operational, and that India has no right to take a unilateral action about it. The Foreign Office, in a statement issued on Monday, welcomed the decision. In a Supplemental Award announced on Friday last, the Court of Arbitration hearing the Pakistan-India dispute over Kishenganga and Rattle hydroelectric projects has found that its competence remains intact, and that it has a continuing responsibility to advance these proceedings

in a timely, efficient, and fair manner.

The Court of Arbitration decided to announce this Supplemental Award in the wake of India's illegal and unilateral announcement to hold the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance.

Earlier, the Court of Arbitration has upheld Pakistan's position on the Indus Waters Treaty, rejecting India's claim to unilaterally suspend the agreement.

In its decision, the court clearly stated that India has no legal authority to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty.

The court noted that it had thoroughly reviewed the treaty and found no provision that allows either party to suspend it unilaterally. The ruling comes in response to India's announcement on April 23, 2025, declaring the immediate suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty following a militant attack in Pahalgalam.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting with regard to promotion of tourism in the country.

## PM calls for creation of special zones to boost tourism

APP

Islamabad: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has called for the creation of "special tourism zones" under public-private partnerships to transform Pakistan into a premier international tourist destination.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif made these remarks while chairing a high-level meeting focused on promoting tourism in the country.

The Prime Minister emphasized Pakistan's immense potential to generate foreign exchange through its tourism sector, highlighting the country's diverse natural beauty, including snow-capped mountains, serene rivers, lush forests, vast deserts, and rich historical sites. He stated that these attractions could rival any global destination.

To realize this potential, Prime Minister Sharif directed the Pakistan Tourism Development Authority (PTDA) to take immediate practical

steps to promote tourism. He stressed the importance of coordinated efforts between federal and provincial

governments and advocated for robust public-private partnerships to facilitate both international and domestic tourists.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister urged the development of long-term investment plans for tourism development and emphasized the critical need for effective branding to position Pakistan as a leading global tourism destination. The move reflects a strategic shift towards leveraging Pakistan's natural and cultural assets to boost its economy and attract a wider international audience.

He said there should be a proper plan for long-term investment in the tourism sector.

Shehbaz Sharif said Pakistan is blessed with natural resources and unparalleled beauty, emphasizing there is immense potential in Pakistan's tourism sector to earn foreign exchange.

## SCO proved world is listening Pakistan, not India: Khawaja Asif

APP

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Monday said that Pakistan's stance was recognized and upheld during the recent Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, where India was unable to assert its position.

Speaking to a private news channel, the minister said that Pakistan's position was based on facts and justice, which is why it was acknowledged at the SCO platform, despite Indian efforts. He strongly criticized India for what he called "water terrorism", accusing New Delhi of attempting to hold 240 million Pakistanis hostage by manipulating shared water resources. "No party has the right to unilaterally suspend the Indus Waters Treaty, which remains binding under international law," he emphasized.

Answering a question, he said that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's political future is in decline, especially after India's failure on military and diplomatic fronts. He further said that Modi was trying to salvage political respect through fabricated narratives.

## Bilawal reaffirms commitment to the supremacy of Parliament

APP

ISLAMABAD: On the occasion of the International Day of Parliamentarism, Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has paid rich tribute to the democratic aspirations of the people of Pakistan and reaffirmed his unwavering commitment to the supremacy of Parliament as the true voice of the nation.

He said that Parliament is not merely a structure of bricks and stone; it is the embodiment of the people's will, the sanctuary of their hopes, and the guardian of their freedoms. "Each elected voice in Parliament echoes the struggle and sacrifices of our people, especially the countless martyrs of democracy, including Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto," he said.

Bilawal said that strong, independent, and inclusive Parliaments are essential for

peace, justice, and sustainable development. "We must never allow anyone to undermine the sanctity of the legislature. The history of Pakistan has taught us that every time Parliament is weakened, the people suffer. Every time it is silenced, the nation pays a heavy price," he warned.

He called upon all democratic forces to unite in defending parliamentary traditions and in restoring Parliament to its rightful place at the heart of national decision-making. "As a young democrat, I see Parliament as the place where dreams of equality, justice, and dignity for every Pakistani can be shaped into law," he added.

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari reiterated his party's resolve to continue the legacy of Quaid-e-Azam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, who both gave their lives standing tall for parliamentary democracy.

## Solving issues of women top priority of govt: Deputy Speaker

APP

Quetta: Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola on Monday said that addressing issues of women is top priority of government.

She said this while talking to women from different districts belonging to

Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) met with Deputy Speaker and President of Pakistan Peoples Party Women's Section Balochistan, Ghazala Gola.

During the meeting, the women informed in detail about the issues of their respective areas, organizational matters and challenges faced.

The Deputy Speaker listened to all the issues carefully and assured them that she would take all possible steps to resolve these issues.

She said that the Pakistan Peoples Party has always provided leadership opportunities to women and we are taking this mission further.

## Ayaz Sadiq meets Speaker Balochistan Assembly

APP

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on Monday met with Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai at Parliament House.

The two dignitaries discussed the overall political and economic situation of the country, along with matters of mutual interest.

During the meeting, Ayaz Sadiq stressed the importance of strong coordination between the federal government and all provincial administrations in addressing the country's ongoing challenges.

"Close cooperation between the federation and the provinces is essential for overcoming national issues," he said.

Highlighting the strategic significance of Balochistan, the Speaker NA said, "Balochistan is a vital province, and the country's development is closely linked with the development of the province."

He reaffirmed the federal government's commitment to the progress of the province, saying that Balochistan's development remains among the top priorities of the current government.

The National Assembly Secretariat, he assured, would extend every possible assistance to enhance the capacity and performance of Balochistan Assembly members and staff.

Meanwhile, Khaliq Achakzai emphasized the need to strengthen inter-parliamentary ties, saying, "Enhanced interaction between members of the National Assembly and the Balochistan Assembly is vital for promoting harmony and mutual understanding."

He also underscored the importance of national unity and solidarity, saying that these are indispensable for tackling the pressing challenges facing the country.

## Iran appreciates Pakistan's unwavering support amid conflict

APP

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan, Dr. Raza Amiri Moghaddam, on Monday commended Pakistan's proactive and unwavering support for Iran during the recent escalation in the region.

Speaking to a private news channel, the envoy said Pakistan played the most prominent role among all the brotherly nations, and the Iranian people deeply respect and value this support.

He said, "Pakistan's government, people, and media stood firmly with us. Pakistan extended full support at international forums including the UN Security Council and IAEA Board of Governors. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence of Pakistan offered complete cooperation."

In contrast, India offered no support to Iran during the conflict, the ambassador said, suggesting that India remains under U.S. influence and maintains close ties with Israel.

Dr. Amiri appreciated the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for its stronger-than-usual condemnation of the Israeli attacks, acknowledging improved performance compared to past.

He also praised the roles of the Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), stating that "they all supported us."

He clarified that Iran's response was defensive, as the aggression originated from Israel.

The war started because of their provocations. Any future ceasefire depends on their actions. The losses they suffered may deter them from reigniting conflict soon, but if they feel they can win, they will not hesitate to start war again."

## Governor urges officers to play role for ending nepotism from society

APP

Quetta: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel on Monday urged the government officers that they would play a key role in eliminating nepotism from the society for the sake of good governance.

He expressed these views while talking to a delegation of twenty-five officers under training of Mid-Career Course Management led by Director General Balochistan Civil Service Academy Dr. Hafeez Ahmed Jamali at the Governor House Quetta. Principal Secretary to Governor Balochistan Hashim Khan Ghilzai, Muhammad Sohail and Zulfiqar Ali were also present on the occasion.

On the occasion, the Governor said that capable and honest government officers are highly valued in the eyes of their department and the public.

He said that it is very important to maintain one's dignity while performing duties and to

stand firm against unnecessary pressure, for the sake of good governance, the bureaucracy itself is held to a high standard, it is commendable that the training not only includes administrative duties but also emphasizes on etiquette, dressing and especially public dealing.

He said that this capacity building training would undoubtedly have a positive impact on the personal and professional lives of all the officers under training.

In response to a question, Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhel said that government officers could play a key role in eliminating nepotism from the society. He said that officers have a big responsibility in becoming the voice of the silent majority of the society, you could reduce the problems being faced by the people through utilizing your professional skills.

Finally, the Governor of Balochistan was presented with a commemorative shield by the Balochistan Civil Service Academy.

## Monsoon rains claim 40 lives in Punjab, KP as urban flooding threatens nationwide

NEWS DESK

LAHORE/PESHAWAR: At least 40 people lost their lives while 68 were injured and 102 houses were damaged in Punjab and KP due to heavy rains, strong winds, flash floods, and landslides, according to reports from the Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) of Punjab and KP, respectively.

On the directions of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) has released a Monsoon Alert Fact Sheet detailing the current water levels in rivers, barrages, and dams, along with updates on rainfall and damages across Punjab.

According to the PDMA spokesperson,

rain was recorded in the last 24 hours in Murree, Lahore, Sheikhupura, Attock, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Sialkot, Hafizabad, Chakwal, and Dera Ghazi Khan.

The fact sheet revealed that during the current monsoon season, 18 people lost their lives, including 11 children, 3 women, and 4 men, while 57 individuals were injured and 27 houses were damaged. Most fatalities resulted from the collapse of fragile or dilapidated houses. In Khanewal and Okara, two people died from lightning strikes, while in Mandi Bahauddin, two children were electrocuted.

PDMA Director General Irfan Ali Kathia stated that the first monsoon spell will continue until July 1, and all rivers and barrages in the province currently have normal water flow.



Quetta: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel in a meeting with Director General Balochistan Civil Service Academy Dr. Hafeez Ahmed Jamali.

## DPM urges India to rethink present hostile, misguided policies

APP

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Monday reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to a foreign policy rooted in geo-economics and unwavering adherence to international peace and security.

"One of the core principles guiding this foreign policy approach is accentuating Pakistan's pivot to geo-economics," Dar said, highlighting his personal leadership in promoting economic diplomacy as a key pillar of the country's global engagement.

Speaking at an event to commemorate the 52nd anniversary of Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) here, the deputy PM emphasized that enhancing trade, promoting foreign investment, attracting remittances and technology flows, and forging development partnerships were among the highest priorities. In this way, he said foreign policy became the most important instrument to protect and promote Pakistan's economic interests and to substantially contribute to the process of national development.

"The other core principle is our abiding commitment to international law, United Nations Charter, and UN-centered multilateralism. This is of utmost importance for effectively addressing the world's complex, interconnected threats and challenges — pertaining to peace and security, climate change and sustainable development, terrorism and trans-national crimes, strategic stability and destructive arms races, misinformation and disinformation, and Islamophobia and inter-faith harmony," he added.

As regards the recent global turbulence and transformation, Ishaq Dar

said both as a Middle Power and a key member of the 'Global South', Pakistan was contributing to the worthy causes of peace and security as well as sustainable development.

Referring to the India's unfounded allegations following the Pahalgalam attack, and its unprovoked aggression in May 2025, the deputy PM said Pakistan swiftly retaliated to the Indian escalation with a "quid pro quo plus" response — which is the "new normal" set by Pakistan if India insists on its dangerous notion of "limited war under the nuclear threshold."

"The outcome of this 4-day war has once again underscored the reality that India can neither intimidate nor coerce Pakistan. New Delhi must, therefore, rethink its present hubristic and misguided policies that threaten peace and undermine security in South Asia."

He said Pakistan also remained determined to protect its rights and entitlements under the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT). "We firmly reject attempts by India to weaponise water in pursuit of its narrow geopolitical objectives. India's illegal and unilateral action of putting the Treaty "in abeyance" has no validity."

He expressed his gratitude to all friendly countries, including the U.S., KSA, UAE, and Türkiye whom efforts resulted in preventing further escalation between India and Pakistan and putting the ceasefire in place.

He emphasized that sustainable peace in South Asia remained contingent on a just and lasting solution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people. As regards the recent developments in the Middle East, DPM Dar said Pakistan condemned Israel's completely unjustified aggres-



ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Monday reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to a foreign policy rooted in geo-economics and unwavering adherence to international peace and security.

sion against Iran as well as the attack on Iranian nuclear facilities by the U.S. These actions, representing a highly dangerous escalation, have been in violation of the UN charter and international law.

"Pakistan has consistently supported Iran's legitimate right to self-defence under the Charter. We appreciate the constructive and pragmatic approach that Iran adopted in finding a negotiated solution to the nuclear issue. The U.S.-Israeli actions seriously undermined the longstanding norms of inter-state behaviour and exposed the entire region to a conflagration of potentially unimaginable consequences", he added.

## Works of ongoing development projects reviewed in Loralai: Chief Engineer

APP

Quetta: Chief Engineer of the Department of Communications and Works, Quetta Zone, Abdul Rahim Bangulzai and Superintending Engineer Jahanzeb Kakar, Ex-B and R Roads, No. Sherwan Muhammad Shahi, SDO Sardar Qayyum Khan Kabzai reviewed various ongoing development projects in Loralai on Monday.

These projects are under-construction University Road and the under-construction Loralai to Sanjawi Road and Katoi Road.

The concerned officials inspected the works of the under-construction road and strictly instructed the engineers to not only complete the ongoing work within the stipulated time but also ensure its quality so that these projects prove to be durable

and maximum people could benefit from these projects.

They said that the University Road, which is about to be completed and is in the final stages,

should be completed as soon as possible and handed over to the department so that the girls of the university could travel comfortably on this road.

The difficulties faced due to the roads that could reach the university could be remedied,

the officers said adding that further said that their construction should be in accordance with PC-1 and the engineers assigned to

them should strictly monitor it and ensure quality assurance at all times, this would not only ensure the durability of the roads and buildings but also make the name of the department clear.

## Parliament is Heart of Democracy, True Source of State Power: CM

By Maqsood Khalid

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has emphasized the pivotal role of the parliamentary system in democratic governance, calling it the "heart of democracy and the true source of power in the state."

In her message on International Day of Parliamentarism, the CM said that a parliament is not merely a law-making body, but a dignified institution that embodies the collective intellect, aspirations, and direction of a nation. "It shapes not only legislation, but also the nation's consciousness, wisdom, and its path forward," the CM added.

The CM paid glowing tribute to democratic institutions, extending her salutations to all elected assemblies, especially the Punjab Assembly, for their vital role in upholding and strengthening democracy.

She particularly lauded the Punjab Assembly for setting exemplary standards in reinforcing the constitutional supremacy and contributing to the unity of the Federation of Pakistan.



Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari addressing a press conference Commissioner office in the city.

## Kamal Inaugurates Big Catch-up Round-III Campaign

APP

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Health, Syed Mustafa Kamal on Monday inaugurated the third phase of the big catch-up round campaign at the Basic Health Unit (BHU) Golra Sharif.

The immunization drive aims to reach children who missed routine vaccinations and protect them against 12 life-threatening vaccine-preventable diseases.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Minister Kamal emphasized the urgent need to scale up preventive healthcare efforts across Pakistan.

"The Big Catch-Up Round is not just an immunization activity, it is our national resolve to protect our children. During this intensive campaign, a robust vaccination drive will be carried out across the country," he said.

Highlighting the broader challenges in the healthcare system.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi along with Minister of State for Interior Talla Chaudhary visiting the Central Imambargah Asna Ashari in G-6, Islamabad.

## Minorities Convention Quetta Calls for Concrete Reforms and Effective Measures to Safeguard Minority Rights

> Call for Action: Rwdari Tehreek Highlights Forced Conversions and Misuse of Blasphemy Laws

INP

Quetta: Prominent Leadership of religious minorities, human rights activists and representatives of civil society organizations jointly organized a Minorities Convention under the auspices of Rwdari Tehreek Pakistan at Quetta Press Club on June 25, 2025 to express their outrage and concerns on the consistent incidents of forced conversion, misuse of blasphemy laws, hate speech, instigation of violence and

undemocratic and unfair system for the representation of religious minorities in the parliament.

The speakers and leadership present at the Minorities Convention included Chairman Rwdari Tehreek Pakistan Mr. Samson Salam, Chief Organizer Mr. Adnan Arif, President Rwdari Tehreek Baluchistan Mr. Gohram Baloch, Deputy Chairman PashtunKhwaMiliAwami Party Abdul Rauf Lala, Vice Chairperson HRCF Baluchistan Mr. Khasif Khan Panezai Advocate, Member Baluchistan Assembly of National Party Kalsum Niazi, Jamat-e-Islami's Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman, Former President Supreme Court Bar Association Mr. Ali Ahmed Kurd, Information Secretary of BNP Quetta Naseem Javed, Member National Commission on the Rights of Child Mr. ShezanWillam, and representatives from the Christian, Hindu, Sikh

communities Mr. Ilyas Inderyas, Former MPA William John Barkat, Sardar Ashok Kumar Jamala, Sardar Jasbir Singh and Sonia Khuram.

The Minorities Convention Quetta unanimously declared and demanded the following:

The procedure to fill-up the seats for minorities should be reformed and the government, political parties and other stakeholders should work on a scheme that involves the minority voters to elect their representatives in the national and provincial assemblies. The participants of the Minorities Convention viewed that the current system of proportional representation practically takes away the democratic powers and rights from the voters to elect their minority parliamentarians and instead empowers the political parties and political elite without following any fair process, procedure or merit.

Experts Call For Human-centric CPEC to Establish Balochistan as Gateway to Growth

APP

ISLAMABAD: Leading experts, diplomats, and policymakers unanimously urged on Monday to embrace a shift toward human-centered, integrated development for Balochistan under Phase-II of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to establish the latter as gateway to sustainable growth and development.

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) under its Monday Seminar Series organized a high-level policy seminar titled "Balochistan's Gateway to Sustainable Development: Market Opportunities and Investment Pathways under CPEC" moderated by Engineer Ubaid-Ur-Rehman Zia, Head of SDPI's Energy Unit, said a press release.

Opening the session, Dr. Hassan Daud Butt, Senior Advisor, Energy China and former project director CPEC, emphasized that "Gwadar is not just a port, it's Pakistan's gateway to Eurasia."

Highlighting Balochistan's untapped economic potential, he pointed out the province accounts for 44% of Pakistan's landmass and 40% of the country's livestock, while also possessing one of the largest wind energy corridors in South Asia.

## Empowered parliament can lay foundation for brighter future: Rubina Khalid

APP

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Senator Rubina Khalid, has said that an empowered parliament can lay the foundation for a brighter future and strengthen the pillars of democracy. In her message on the occasion of the International Day of Parliamentarism, she extended heartfelt congratulations to all parliamentarians, acknowledging the vital role parliamentary institutions play in upholding democratic values and promoting accountability.

"This day highlights the importance of

parliaments in ensuring transparency, inclusivity, and public trust," she said, adding that Pakistan's Parliament has consistently demonstrated commitment to these ideals.

Senator Rubina Khalid emphasized that the Parliament prioritizes the voice of the people, guarantees representation, and actively addresses national issues. "It bridges the gap between the public and their elected representatives," she noted.

Reaffirming her belief in democracy, she said, "Through a strong and inclusive parliament, we can strengthen our institutions and work collectively for the progress and prosperity of the nation."



Gaza - A view of a damaged UNRWA facility, as the agency reports that over 810 civilians have been killed by Israeli forces while sheltering in its premises across Gaza since the beginning of the war.



## Pakistan continue winning streak after crushing Japan at Asian Youth Netball Championship

SPORTS DESK

Pakistan proved their dominance yet again after crushing Japan 79-39 on Monday at the Asian Youth Netball Championship in South Korea.

The victory was the fourth consecutive for Pakistan, who now lead Pool B with 8 points. The green shirts were 16-9 in the first quarter before extending their lead to 39-17 by halftime.

The score jumped to 60-26 in the third quarter, with the women cruising to 79-39 to end the match.

Leya Raza Shah, Alisha Naveed, Haleema, Sarina Hussain,

Jasmine Farooq, Farah Rasheed, Amani, Parisa, Sumayya Ahmed and Alina played exceptional roles in securing the team's victory.

Senior officials of the Pakistan Netball federation, including chairman Mudassar Arain, president Samreen Malik, and secretary general congratulated Muhammad Riaz congratulated the team on their impressive win over Japan.



ANAHEIM (California): Jake Paul (R) fights Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. at Honda Center.

## YouTuber Jake Paul cruises past Chavez Jr

SPORTS DESK

ANAHEIM: YouTuber-turned-boxer Jake Paul cruised to victory over Mexico's Julio Cesar Chavez Jr on Saturday in a one-sided cruiserweight bout in California. Paul, whose last fight was a controversial clash with 58-year-old former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson in November, dominated from the outset to win by unanimous decision.

The 28-year-old influencer, who has earned millions from a string of lucrative contests in a ring career that has spanned 13 fights, had too much speed and power for Chavez Jr. The three judges at ringside scored the 10-round fight 99-91, 97-93, 98-92 in Paul's favour.

Chavez Jr, the 39-year-old son of Mexican boxing great Julio Cesar Chavez, barely looked capable of mustering a response during a one-sided bout.

Chavez Jr failed to land a single punch in the opening round, a pattern that followed the remainder of the contest, with Paul easily outscoring the veteran of 63 professional fights.

Paul, who reportedly pocketed around \$40 million for his made-for-Netflix fight with Tyson last year, received around \$300,000 guaranteed from Saturday's bout.

However the American is expected to earn around \$8-10 million from the fight once earnings from pay-per-view and sponsorships are taken into account.

Final statistics showed Tyson connected with just 18 of

97 punches thrown while Paul threw some 278 punches and landed 78 of them.

As the final seconds of the eighth round counted down, Paul could even afford to bow in respect to Tyson before the bell sounded.

"First and foremost, Mike Tyson, it's such an honour. Let's give it up for Mike," Paul said after embracing Tyson following his win.

"He's the greatest to ever do it. He's the GOAT, he's a legend. I'm inspired by him and we wouldn't be here today without him.

"This man is an icon and it's just an honour to be able to fight him. He's obviously the toughest, baddest man on the planet; it was really tough like I expected it to be."

Tyson, meanwhile, praised the quality of his opponent Paul, who has successfully parlayed a career as a popular YouTuber and content creator into a string of lucrative boxing contests such as Friday's event, bankrolled and broadcast by streaming giant Netflix.

"He's a very good fighter," said Tyson, who refused to rule out the possibility that he might even fight again.

"I don't know. It depends on the situation," said Tyson. Pressed on whether Friday was his last fight he added: "I don't think so."

Tyson was reportedly paid \$20 million to sign up for Friday's contest, which came 19 years after his last officially sanctioned professional bout, a defeat to Irish journeyman Kevin McBride in 2005.

## Alcaraz eyes hat-trick, Krejckikova relishes return at Wimbledon

SPORTS DESK

LONDON: The first round of Wimbledon begins on Monday with defending champion Carlos Alcaraz seeking a hat-trick of titles at the All England Club while women's top seed Aryna Sabalenka resumes her quest for a first major this year after two runner-up finishes.

Spaniard Alcaraz could join an elite club of just four men — Bjorn Borg, Pete Sampras, Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic — who have claimed three consecutive Wimbledon titles in the Open era.

Yet the 22-year-old Alcaraz, radiating confidence that belies his youth, says the only thing on his mind is the trophy itself and not its legacy.

"I'm coming here thinking that I really want to win the title, I really want to lift the trophy, not thinking about how many players have won three Wimbledons in a row," Alcaraz told reporters the other day.

"I just want to be ready, to prepare myself in the best way possible to start the tournament with a lot of confidence. Obviously I feel a lot of confidence right now," he added with a smile.

"Two weeks could be really long in a Grand Slam but right now I'm not thinking about who I could join if I win three Wimbledons in a row."

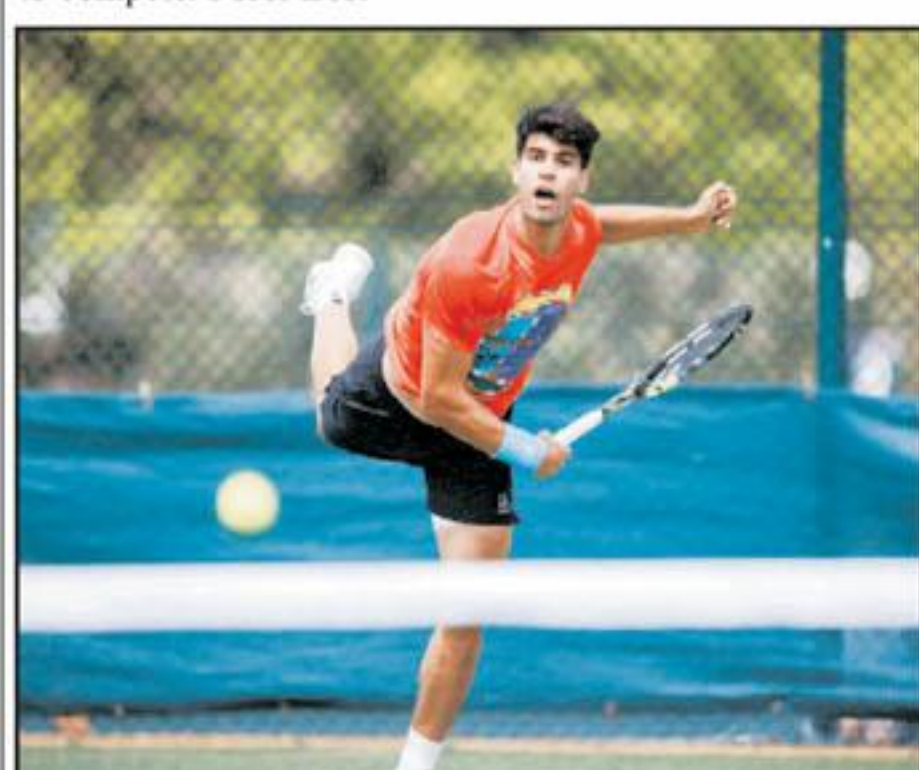
Such confidence is not misplaced, after he cemented his status as the Prince of Clay when he won a five-and-a-half-hour epic to beat world number one Jannik Sinner in the French Open final earlier this month.

The world number two is now seeking to extend his reign on the grasscourts as well, warming up for Wimbledon by winning the Queen's Club Championship for a second time.

Parting company with two of your team days before Wimbledon might not sound ideal but Sinner has played down any negative impact as he prepares for the grass-court Grand Slam.

The 23-year-old Italian surprisingly split with Marco Panichi and Ulises Badio, his trainer and physiotherapist respectively, after the Halle tournament and was asked about the situation.

"Nothing major happened. Nothing big happened. I parted ways not long ago but it's not affecting me. I feel ready to compete. I feel free.



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz practises ahead of the Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club

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## Hague court's ruling

**THE Hague-based Permanent Court of Arbitration's unanimous decision, that the judicial body's competence cannot be affected by the unilateral suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, is a legal and moral victory for Pakistan.**

Though the ruling has come in connection with a case initiated by Pakistan in 2016, it suggests that India's decision to hold the IWT in 'abeyance' after the Pahalgam episode has no firm basis in international law and that, in the eyes of neutral observers, the treaty very much holds.

The court made the decision based on the text of the IWT, particularly the article stating that the treaty will hold until both states mutually withdraw from it. In the present circumstances, this is not the case, as Pakistan still honours the agreement.

Not surprisingly, while Pakistan has welcomed the decision, India has reacted in a belligerent manner. Casting aspersions on the court, it has rejected the decision, saying that it "has never recognised the existence in law of this so-called Court of Arbitration".

This displays an alarming lack of respect for international institutions, and the language is not one associated with responsible states. If matters do not go India's way, will it also reject the jurisdiction of august multilateral fora such as the UN's International Court of Justice?

Moreover, New Delhi's reaction borders on the conspiratorial, as the Indian external affairs ministry has characterised the court's declaration as a "charade at Pakistan's behest".

This farcical assumption suggests that Pakistan has the power to control the decision-making process of independent international institutions. If the matter did not concern such a critical issue as water rights, the Indian reaction would have been seen as comical. However, although Pakistan has achieved a legal success where upholding the IWT's sanctity and rejecting the treaty's unilateral suspension are concerned, it must be prepared to launch a robust legal and political defence of its water rights at all international fora.

India's intentions regarding Pakistan's share of water are hardly benign. In fact, the Indian home minister has said his country would "never" restore the IWT, and that Pakistan's share of water would be diverted to Rajasthan. This indicates that India is not ready for a peaceful resolution of bilateral disputes, particularly matters related to water, even though Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif recently reiterated his desire to engage with India on all issues. As The Hague court's observations have illustrated, Pakistan's case is a strong one. The country must deploy the best legal and diplomatic minds to defend.

By Zarrar Khuhro

## Ties that bind

**CLOSE to the end of the Israel-Iran war, and right after he had Iran's Fordow enrichment centre bombed, the US president indulged in some unusual criticism of Israel. Granted, a day or so later, he was effusive in his praise for Israel's prime minister and renowned war criminal Benjamin 'Bibi' Netanyahu, but given the death grip that Israel has on US politics, the fact that any criticism was made in the open is interesting.**

Now we know that many US presidents haven't exactly gotten along with Israel's leaders and have, in fact, taken issue with many of Israel's actions, but this is usually done behind closed doors.

If I had a hundred dollars for every time I read a 'leak' or 'insider scoop' about how displeased, angry or even livid former president Joe Biden had been with Netanyahu during the ongoing Gaza genocide, I'd be able to retire a good chunk of Pakistan's debt by now. Of course, US military, economic and diplomatic support for Israel reached new heights under Biden, so the private criticism, if any, really doesn't matter.

Obama himself once pointedly avoided visiting Israel after his 2009 Cairo speech, and it is known that his own relations with Netanyahu were strained, but this had no real effect on the US-Israeli relationship.

Bill Clinton was much the same, with many insiders and journalists talking about his private frustration with Netanyahu over the so-called peace process, but the private opprobrium never translated into public action.

But the further back you go, you see that there was a time when words were matched by action, or at least by the threat of action. In this case, we can refer to when George H.W. Bush threat-

ened to withhold loan guarantees worth \$10 billion from Israel in 1992 if it persisted with building settlements in the occupied West Bank.

But it is Ronald Reagan who gets the most credit among the post-1973 presidents for slightly standing up to Israel after it bombed Iraq's Osirak reactor in 1981. He suspended the delivery of F-16 jets and voted in favour of a Security Council resolution condemning Israel. A year later, when Israel invaded Lebanon, Reagan not only demanded an immediate withdrawal but also temporarily restricted military aid and assistance.

That aid had become crucial for Israel's very existence; the 1973 Arab-Israeli war was an inflection point in the US-Israeli relationship, with Nixon launching Operation Nickel Grass, an airlift of military supplies that perhaps exceeded the volume of the Berlin airlift itself. These supplies allowed Israel to continue waging war and marked the moment when the US fully committed itself to Israel's protection.

Things haven't always been smooth between Israel and the US.

Prior to this, there had been severe strains which came close to derailing, but never quite derailed, the

core relationship. Such as when Kennedy took Israel to task over its nuclear programme, insisting that it allow inspections of its Dimona nuclear facility.

Whether this would have led to a serious dispute is now a purely academic question, as Kennedy was assassinated soon afterwards. Interestingly, Republican congresswoman and hardcore MAGA adherent Marjorie Taylor Greene recently alluded to that assassination in a tweet, writing: "There was once a great president that the American

people loved. He opposed Israel's nuclear programme. And then he was assassinated."

A few years after that, during the 1967 war, the Israeli navy and air force attacked a US Navy ship, the USS Liberty, which was stationed north of Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. In an assault that lasted over an hour, 34 crew members were killed and close to 200 injured. While Israel to this day claims that this was a case of mistaken identity, the survivors of the attack insist that it was deliberate, and that the ship was clearly marked as American. Compensation was paid, and the matter effectively covered up.

But the lowest point in US-Israeli relations had already come and gone in the shape of the 1956 Suez crisis, when Israel teamed up with Britain and France to invade Egypt. The colonial-settler state had been hungry for land since its inception, and Britain and France wanted to hold on to their remaining colonial glory.

US president Eisenhower was having none of it, though, and issued marching orders to the triple invaders, forcing a withdrawal. Of course, the US was also motivated by its fear of being embroiled in a larger Cold War conflict at this stage.

At the same time, pro-Israel elements were working diligently to expand Israel's influence in America, notably by founding AIPAC in 1954, in part to counter 'negative reactions' to Israel's massacre of Palestinian villagers the same year.

Since then, AIPAC has grown into a formidable force but is increasingly not immune to criticism, and we have seen hardcore MAGAists like the aforementioned Greene and Thomas Massie publicly criticise its influence and methods.

By Maleeha Lodhi

## 'Man of peace'?

**PRESIDENT Donald Trump wants to be known and acknowledged as a 'man of peace'. But his imperious conduct and record so far are at sharp variance with this.**

True, his instincts are against war, and he vowed not to involve the US in foreign entanglements and what he called "endless stupid wars". This is what he promised in his election campaign.

He also claimed he would end the war in Ukraine in 24 hours. During the presidential campaign, JD Vance described Trump as the "candidate of peace". In his victory speech, Trump declared, "I am not going to start wars. I am going to stop wars."

But in his opening days in power, his aggressive statements sent a message that no 'man of peace' would be identified with. He threatened to take over Greenland and the Panama Canal, if necessary by military force, and turn Canada into the 51st state of the US by using "economic force".

He also said the US would "take over Gaza" and relocate Palestinians outside their homeland. He unleashed a trade war by imposing sweeping tariffs against almost all countries in the world. His bullying approach and coercive methods prompted The Economist to describe him as a modern-day Don Corleone. Others likened his leadership style to mafia tactics both at home and abroad.

Despite Trump's boastful claims of bringing a quick end to the Ukraine war, he has been unable to do that. He claims to have promoted peace in the Middle East by forging a ceasefire between Israel and Iran following their 12-day war. But lighting a fire and then putting it out hardly makes him a peacemaker. Israel, the aggressor, would never have attacked Iran in the first place without a green light from Washington.

Trump acknowledged he had advanced knowledge of Israel's June 13 military assault. But he did nothing to stop Benjamin Netanyahu. Instead, he used nuclear talks with Iran as a smokescreen while the Israeli military was preparing to attack Iran. Trump later described the attack as "excellent" and admitted he had coordinated closely with Netanyahu.

Then, in flagrant violation of international law, he ordered US warplanes to bomb Iranian nuclear facilities, declaring triumphantly this had "completely obliterated" Iran's nuclear sites and likening it to nuclear bombs dropped by the US on Japan in World War II. Is this what 'men of peace' do?

Trump's imperious conduct and record so far contradict his claim of being a peacemaker.

Persuading Israel and Iran to agree to a ceasefire, which remains fragile, hardly supports Trump's assertion to have established peace. Yes, the fighting has stopped for now, but peace is an altogether different matter.

Peace is established when disputes or issues are resolved. A ceasefire is what it says it is — a halt in active hostilities. Ceasefires can, of course, be a pathway to peace. But there is no chance of peace between Iran and Israel, who remain implacable enemies. Meanwhile, Trump declared he would bomb Iran again if the country was still able to enrich uranium to weapons-grade.

What contradicts Trump's 'peacemaker' claim in the most barefaced way is his role in and support for Israel's genocidal war on Gaza. Despite his earlier statements that he wanted an expeditious end to the war, his actions prove the contrary. He has thus far shown no willingness to restrain or stop Netanyahu from raining death and destruction on Gaza. While Trump has been trumpeting his peacemaking 'credentials', Gaza has only seen more bloodshed, displacement, devastation, and now, starvation and famine.

Close to 60,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's US-backed war, the majority of them women and children. In fact, since Trump's assumption of power, Israel has expanded its military offensive in Gaza and threatened to occupy all of the territory. It has blocked humanitarian aid and used starvation as a weapon. Has Trump intervened to prevent any of this or, for that matter, Israel's increasing military assaults on the occupied West Bank? Obviously not. Instead, the US has used its veto to block resolutions in the UN Security Council calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. The most recent veto was exercised earlier this month that

opposed an "immediate and permanent ceasefire"; it was the sixth US veto since the war began.

This has given Israel carte blanche to continue its killing spree and create a catastrophic humanitarian crisis in Gaza. The Trump administration has remained unmoved by scenes of desperate, starving Palestinians, including children, being shot in cold blood by Israeli forces as they queue up for food at controversial military-run aid distribution sites set up with US backing.

In one month alone, over 500 aid-seekers have been killed. Washington has also not denied Israeli leaders' claims that they are implementing Trump's plan of forcible displacement of Palestinians by pushing them out of Gaza.

Despite this grim record, Trump feels he should be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Although he has cited several reasons for this, his claim rests principally on brokering a ceasefire between India and Pakistan after their four-day conflict. For that, the government of Pakistan recommended him for the Nobel Peace Prize. This ill-conceived move, aimed at ingratiating himself with Trump, was justified by the government on the grounds that he had intervened to de-escalate "a rapidly deteriorating situation" and secure a ceasefire that averted "a broader conflict between the two nuclear states". It is disingenuous to argue Trump's intervention was the decisive factor, when it was nuclear deterrence that prevented the outbreak of all-out war.

Defusing a crisis, which Washington did, is not the same thing as averting a full-blown conflict. If it took Trump to avert a "broader conflict", that would make Pakistan's nuclear capability irrelevant. If that is what the government thinks, then it has no confidence in the country's security guarantor. Moreover, a peace award should be in recognition of the establishment of peace, which happens when contentious issues are resolved between warring parties.

Has that happened? What is touted as Trump's doctrine of 'peace through strength' is nothing other than the unilateral use of force and coercion in defiance of international law and global norms to impose US will.

# DAILY MIRROR

## PTI urges govt to move beyond statements, engage in meaningful dialogue

> Dialogue should not be used to create "false" sense of normalcy: Shibli Faraz

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf senior leader Senator Shibli Faraz on Monday urged the PML-N-led coalition government in the Centre to move beyond statements and engage in meaningful dialogues to ease political tensions in the country.

His remarks came in response to the government's renewed offer of dialogue to the former ruling party last week. Adviser to the Prime Minister on Political and Public Affairs Rana Sanaullah had said that the government remained open and willing to hold dialogue on all political matters with the opposition.

Speaking to journalists on June 26 after meeting opposition members,

Sanaullah stated that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had extended a clear and open invitation to the opposition from the floor of the House, expressing readiness for dialogue.

"The PM even offered to meet in the speaker's chamber if the opposition wasn't comfortable meeting him directly," he added. The PML-N leader was of the view that democracy moves forward through dialogue.

Reacting to the olive branch extended by the PM, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate said: "If the government is serious, it must go beyond statements and engage in sincere dialogue."

Dialogue should not be used to create a "false" sense of normalcy, he added.

"The government should engage directly with the PTI chairman and the secretary general," Faraz said, adding that dialogue cannot happen if the government limits the process to political statements.

He further said that talks should not be held merely for political

optics. "There must be sincerity in the negotiations, and it should be visibly clear that the government is serious," the PTI leader added.

He urged the PM and the government to take concrete steps regarding the dialogue process.

It is pertinent to mention here that the premier has publicly and repeatedly invited PTI for dialogue in efforts to reduce political tensions and promote democratic consensus.

Most recently, during the escalation of hostilities with India, Shehbaz reached out to Barrister Gohar to take him and the PTI into confidence alongside other national leaders.

Last week, the PM walked across the floor of the National Assembly to shake hands with PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan and others.

The move, though brief, stood out as a moment of political courtesy in an increasingly hostile and polarised environment.



QUETTA: Provincial Ameer JUI Mulana Abdul Wasy addressing a press conference.

### MNA Ch. Usman calls on prime minister

APP

ISLAMABAD: Independently elected Member of the National Assembly from Sahiwal Chaudhary Usman Ali on Monday called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here.

The prime minister congratulated Chaudhary Usman on joining the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and also expressed good wishes for him.

The MNA expressed his confidence in the government's policies and congratulated the prime minister on passage of the federal budget 2025-26.

During the meeting, they also discussed the matters pertaining to the constituency of the parliamentarian.

Advisor to Prime Minister Rana Sanaullah also attended the meeting.

### Gilani pays tribute to law-makers for their commitment to democracy, rule of law

APP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani has paid tribute to elected representatives around the world for their commitment to democracy, the rule of law, human rights, and public service.

In a special message issued on International Day of Parliamentarism he said that parliament is the cornerstone of any democratic society and the true voice of the people's aspirations.

"An empowered, transparent, and accountable parliament not only ensures national development, prosperity, and stability, but also upholds constitutional principles and democratic traditions," he said.

Highlighting the vital role of Pakistan's Upper House, he noted that the Senate, as a symbol of the Federation, plays a crucial part in fostering inter-provincial harmony, promoting national unity, and ensuring equitable development across all regions.

He added that the Senate serves as a platform for representing minorities, marginalized communities, and underdeveloped areas, and is committed to advancing democratic values and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### Ahsan Iqbal urges officers to play role in export-led growth

APP

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof Ahsan Iqbal on Monday urged the officers to play a leading role in enabling export-led growth, digitising government operations, building climate resilience, improving infrastructure delivery and ensuring inclusive development.

He said this while inaugurating a modern classroom at the Pakistan Administrative Staff College (PASC), National School of Public Policy (NSPP) Lahore, and commenced the 123rd National Management Course (NMC).

Addressing the participants, the minister said the civil servants must play their vital role for Pakistan's transformation, adding that the system must be reformed to deliver better outcomes. He introduced the STAR model — Stable, Transparent, Agile and Responsible — as a governance framework to guide civil service transformation.

Prof Ahsan Iqbal presented a comprehensive roadmap for governance reforms and institutional performance improvement, emphasising the transition from a

procedure-focused to a mission-driven bureaucracy.

The minister said the country is facing a crucial moment requiring data-driven, technology-enabled and accountable governance. Ahsan said: "We must build institutions that are policy-consistent and shielded from political volatility, ensure transparency in decision-making, foster agility to respond to changing demands and instill responsibility in the use of public resources." The minister commended the role of civil servants to make the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a success which showed the dedication of Pakistan's civil servants, adding that civil servants of various ministries worked with dedication, commitment and unity, and they made the CPEC successful in all stages.

Prof Ahsan Iqbal outlined the government's long-term economic vision under the banner of "URAAAN Pakistan", which aims at making Pakistan a \$1 trillion economy by 2035. He said the strategy is built on the five pillars of the 5Es: Exports, E-Pakistan, Environment, Energy & Infrastructure and Equity & Empowerment.

### PM directs making Islamabad pilot smart city: Shaza Fatima

INP

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, said on Monday that Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has directed the transformation of Islamabad into a pilot smart city under an integrated strategy using emerging technologies.

In a statement, the minister outlined several key initiatives of the Ministry of IT aimed at expanding digital connectivity and improving access to education and healthcare through technology.

She revealed that the Ministry has already funded fiber optic connectivity to all public schools, Basic Health Units (BHUs), and healthcare centers in Islamabad. "Within the next six to eight months, all hospitals, schools, and police stations in the capital will be fully fiberized," she stated.

Free public Wi-Fi will also be made available at specific locations, including

metro bus stations and other public spaces, through public-private partnerships, she added.

The minister said that the Ministry of Education was fully cooperating in the digital transformation drive. Remote regions will benefit from EdTech (Education Technology) solutions to ensure learning continuity, she added.

In line with the Prime Minister's vision of universal access to education, she said Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies would be introduced from kindergarten through grade six. "The Prime Minister wants every child in Islamabad to receive education," she stressed. This smart education model, she said, would eventually be extended to Gilgit-Baltistan and other remote areas to provide quality digital learning even in the most isolated schools. On the health front, the Ministry of IT is working with the Ministry of Health on a "One Patient, One ID" initiative to streamline healthcare records and services nationwide.

### Ethiopian ambassador discusses bilateral cooperation with Defence Secretary

APP

ISLAMABAD: Special Envoy and Ambassador Extraordinary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Dr. Jemal Beker Abdula met with Defence Secretary Lt. Gen (R) Muhammad Ali H(M), to discuss bilateral and multilateral cooperation between the two countries.

The meeting reviewed the existing bilateral relationship, with both sides expressing mutual commitment to further strengthening these ties. Ambassador Dr. Jemal briefed the Defence Secretary on the significant reforms undertaken by Ethiopia under the leadership of Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed.

The Ambassador highlighted the renewed momentum in bilateral relations due to the establishment of the Ethiopian Embassy in Islamabad and the commencement of Ethiopian Airlines' operations in Pakistan.

He also underscored Ethiopia's strategic regional position and its contributions to peace and security.

The Defence Secretary commended Ethiopia's home-grown economic reforms and reiterated Pakistan's commitment to enhancing its relations with African nations, including Ethiopia.

He assured the Ambassador of his full support in advancing bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

### 4.8-magnitude earthquake jolts parts of Balochistan

NEWS DESK

QUETTA: Tremors from a moderate earthquake were felt in Zhob and surrounding areas of Balochistan on Monday, sending waves of panic among residents.

According to the National Seismological Centre, the earthquake measured 4.8 on the Richter scale, with its epicentre located 40 kilometres southwest of Zhob. The depth of the quake was recorded at 20km beneath the Earth's surface. While no immediate casualties or damage were reported in Zhob, the seismic activity comes just a day after a more powerful 5.6-magnitude earthquake struck the Musakhel and Barkhan districts, leaving behind a trail of devastation. The earlier quake in Musakhel and Barkhan claimed five lives and caused hundreds of homes to collapse, leaving many families homeless. In response, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Balochistan launched relief efforts to support affected communities.

### Operational readiness key to success in modern warfare: Naval Chief

APP

KARACHI: Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf has underscored that operational preparedness remains the cornerstone of triumph in modern warfare.

He was addressing participants of the Air War Course as a chief guest at the PAF Air War College Institute, Karachi on Monday.

The Naval Chief referenced recent developments along the eastern front as a vivid illustration of the critical need for constant readiness and strategic foresight. He lauded Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu's leadership in modernizing PAF and swiftly integrating advanced technologies that have significantly enhanced operational readiness of Pakistan Air Force and have recalibrated the region's deterrence landscape.

Admiral Naveed Ashraf reiterated that Pakistan Navy's combat capabilities have undergone a substantial enhancement across all operational domains like surface, sub-surface and aerial, enabling a more agile and potent maritime force.

Emphasizing the imperative of cohesive national defence, he stressed the importance of inter-services collabora-

tion in achieving strategic objectives. In this regard, he announced the initiation of more frequent and integrated joint operational exercises with Pakistan Air Force, aimed at further reinforcing the synergy and interoperability between the two services.

The Naval Chief also highlighted the transformative role of technological innovation in contemporary conflicts. Citing the growing significance of Unmanned Aerial Systems, he highlighted an upcoming strategic collaboration between the National Aerospace Science and Technology Park and Pakistan Maritime Science and Technology Park. He said this partnership will focus on advancing indigenous capabilities in unmanned systems, bolstering Pakistan's technological self-reliance and operational edge in the defence sector.

The Chief Guest also lauded the academic and professional excellence being imparted at the institute and acknowledged its vital role in grooming future military leadership capable of meeting the multifaceted challenges of modern warfare.

Earlier on his arrival, Admiral Naveed Ashraf was received by President Air War College Institute Air Vice Marshal Rashid Habib.



Karachi : Admiral Naveed Ashraf, Chief of the Naval Staff, Pakistan Navy, addressing the participants of Air War Course at PAF Air War College Institute.

### Mohsin reviews Muharram security arrangements of Central Imambargah

INP

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, accompanied by Minister of State Talal Chaudhry, visited the Central Imambargah Asna Ashari in Sector G-6, Islamabad, to review security and administrative arrangements for Muharram-ul-Haram.

During the visit, the Interior Minister inspected the security protocols put in place to ensure the safety of mourners. He met with the administrators of the Imambargah, who expressed satisfaction over the ongoing arrangements and coordination with security agencies.

Mohsin Naqvi said that a comprehensive and integrated security plan has been devised for Muharram across the

country. He emphasized that strict surveillance and monitoring of miscreants is being carried out, and that the security alert level has been raised to thwart any potential threats from "cowardly enemies."

Naqvi also announced that approval has been granted for the deployment of army personnel in Azad Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan, and all provinces to assist the civil administration during Muharram. "The army will remain present to support local authorities in maintaining peace and order," he stated.

The Interior Minister was briefed on the arrangements by DIG Islamabad Police, while Federal Secretary for Interior Khuram Agha and SSP Shoaib were also present during the visit.

### Timely alerts, early preparedness key to disaster mitigation: NDMA Chairman

APP

ISLAMABAD: National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Chairman Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik stated on Monday that early preparedness and timely alerts are crucial for effective disaster mitigation and highlighted that the adverse effects of natural disasters can be significantly lessened through coordinated efforts, increased public awareness and strong readiness measures.

In his message on ongoing monsoon situation, NDMA Chairman cautioned that due to climate change, Pakistan is likely to experience above-average rainfall this monsoon season.

Expressing concern over Pakistan's heightened vulnerability to disasters amid the growing impacts of global climate change, Chairman urged the public to strictly adhere to safety guidelines and precautionary measures issued by relevant authorities and district administrations to minimize potential risks.

He noted that the combination of intense precipitation and rapidly melting glaciers could lead to significant flooding in rivers and streams across the northern regions, emphasizing the urgency of proactive preparedness.

He advised recreational visitors to stay alert around rivers and streams, as sudden surges in water flow during the

monsoon could pose significant hazards.

The Chairman emphasized the importance of the public strictly following safety protocols and precautionary measures issued by the relevant authorities and district administrations.

He also urged district and provincial administrations in vulnerable areas to implement timely actions to mitigate potential risks.

Additionally, he stressed that district authorities should manage public movement at tourist hotspots in accordance with their capacity limits.

Citizens are especially warned to stay away from waterways, rivers, and streams during the monsoon season, and to remain vigilant while engaging in recreational activities.

The Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has urged the public to stay informed and adopt precautionary measures by utilizing guidance provided through the NDMA Disaster Alert App.

The Chairman stated that the authority, in close coordination with provincial and district administrations, is actively engaged in efforts to reduce potential risks and enhance preparedness. He emphasized that NDMA plays a pivotal role in providing timely early warnings to all relevant agencies to ensure swift response to potential emergencies.



QUETTA: Activists of ANP hold protest rally.