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PM announces reduction in prices of petrol by Rs74, diesel by Rs67



ANI

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday announced a reduction in petroleum prices, saying the price of petrol had been cut by Rs74 per litre, while diesel prices had been reduced by Rs67 per litre.

"Following the revision, the price of petrol will decrease from Rs373 to Rs299 per litre, while diesel will fall from Rs378 to Rs311 per litre," the prime minister said in a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office.

The announcement came after PM Shehbaz, a day earlier, signed the 'Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding' as a mediator, formalising a major diplomatic breakthrough between the US and Iran.

The memorandum also carries the signatures of US President Donald Trump and Pezeshkian.

The premier, in his statement issued by PMO today, said the government was immediately passing on the benefit of improved regional economic conditions and lower global oil prices to the public, adding that, "Whatever promise was made to the nation, Alhamdulillah, we are about to fulfil it." "We are well aware of the difficulties faced by the people; you have demonstrated exemplary patience and resilience in these challenging circumstances. We are deeply grateful to the people for standing by the government during these difficult times," he said.

The prime minister further

added that from the very beginning of the crisis, the government had made every effort to reduce oil prices using its own resources. "The federal government, through development budget allocations and savings achieved through austerity measures, utilised Rs129 billion to provide maximum possible relief to the people across the country from the unprecedented increase in oil prices," he added. The prime minister further said that during a period of regional economic instability, when some countries were resorting to fuel rationing, Pakistan avoided an energy crisis due to better planning. "Thanks to effective measures, there were no lines, no long queues, and the people did not

face any shortage of petroleum products. To keep the national economy stable, the federation and the provinces extended full cooperation, for which I am grateful to the chief ministers of the provinces," he said. The prime minister said that the reductions in global oil prices were being directly passed on to the people and that the government would continue efforts to maintain economic stability and reduce inflation. "Throughout the crisis, not only was austerity adopted at the governmental level, but subsidies were also provided to the underprivileged segments," he said. PM Shehbaz said that providing maximum relief to the people remained the government's top priority.

Trump ridicules claims that Iran emerged stronger from conflict

ANI

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump claimed that the war had significantly weakened Iran's military capabilities, arguing that the country no longer possessed an effective air force, navy, air defence systems or radar infrastructure.

Trump also criticised political opponents who, he said, believed Iran was in a stronger position than it had been four months ago despite the conflict. Questioning that assessment, he asserted that the war had left Iran substantially diminished and mocked those who suggested otherwise.

"The War has diminished Iran! It doesn't, any longer, have an Air Force, a Navy, Antiaircraft Equipment, Radar, or practically anything else, and yet the Democrats say that Iran is better off now than it was four months ago. Can you imagine getting away with that??? How stupid can some people be???" he wrote on his Truth Social platform.

In a separate post, Trump said Iran had sought engagement with the United States from a position of weakness and insisted that Washington would not ease economic pressure on Tehran.

"We didn't meet out of desperation, Iran did. They are FINISHED," he wrote. He added that the US would "play out the 60 days" and claimed that Iran would receive "no money, not ten cents", signalling his continued support for maintaining financial and economic restrictions on the country.

Iran's chief negotiator says US talks bound by Tehran's 'red lines'

Iran's chief negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said on Friday that talks with the United States would remain bound by Tehran's "red lines".

"As we have shown in the past path of negotiations, we are steadfast in fulfilling the conditions and red lines set, and in achieving the interests of the Iranian nation," Ghalibaf said in remarks published by the official IRNA news agency.

"If the enemy seeks to be excessive, we have proven that our fingers are on the trigger and we have no hesitation in giving a crushing response to the enemy."

Tehran and Washington signed a mem-



orandum of understanding this week, ending a regional war that erupted on February 28 with US-Israeli strikes on Iran.

Ghalibaf's remarks came after Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei said he had approved the US-Iran deal despite having a "different view" on the matter, without elaborating.

In a message read out on state television, Khamenei said that direct talks with the United States "will not mean accepting the enemy's point of view".

In response to Khamenei's message, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said the country's foreign policy apparatus "will be used to secure the sublime interests of Iran" and "protect the rights of the noble Iranian nation".

President Masoud Pezeshkian, who signed the deal on behalf of his country, issued a similar statement promising to adhere to Iran's red lines and defend its "dignity, honour and authority".

The US-Iran deal, which US President Donald Trump also signed, lays the groundwork for detailed 60-day negotiations on Iran's nuclear programme and sanctions relief.

It remains unclear when talks for a final settlement would start after a first meeting in Switzerland slated for Friday was postponed.

The agreement provides for an end to the Middle East war on all fronts, including Lebanon, the lifting of the two-month US naval blockade on Iranian ports, and Tehran's reopening of the Strait of Hormuz "with no charge for 60 days only". It also includes an Iranian commitment not to procure or develop nuclear weapons -- an ambition Tehran has consistently denied pursuing.

Judicial Commission approves key rules, constitutional bench criteria



ANI

ISLAMABAD: The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) on Friday approved key rules relating to judicial appointments, amendments to existing appointment procedures, and criteria for the nomination of judges to constitutional benches, while deferring consideration of rules concerning the performance evaluation of High Court judges.

The meeting of the Judicial Commission was held at the Supreme Court of Pakistan in Islamabad under the chairmanship of the Chief Justice of Pakistan, who also serves as the Chairperson of the Commission.

During the meeting, the Commission considered five agenda items, including the Interviews of Judges Appointment Rules, the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (Judicial Performance Evaluation of High Court Judges) Rules, 2026, proposed amendments to the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (Appointment of Judges) Rules, 2024, criteria for the nomination of judges to constitutional benches, and a proposal from the Balochistan Bar Council regarding the substitution of its nominee serving as a member of the Commission. The Commission approved the Interviews of Judges Appointment Rules, amendments to

the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (Appointment of Judges) Rules, 2024, and the criteria for the nomination of judges to constitutional benches. The approvals were granted in accordance with the recommendations of a committee constituted to examine these matters. Consideration of the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (Judicial Performance Evaluation of High Court Judges) Rules, 2026, was deferred. The Commission decided to seek written comments and suggestions from the Chief Justices and the most senior judges of all High Courts who are members of the Commission. They have been requested to submit their views within seven days to facilitate further deliberations on the proposed framework. The Commission also discussed a letter dated June 8, 2026, from the Balochistan Bar Council seeking amendments to the rules or procedure governing the substitution of a Provincial Bar Council nominee serving on the Judicial Commission.

After examining the matter, the Commission observed that the tenure of a member nominated by a Bar Council is constitutionally fixed at two years. It, therefore, concluded that there was no need for additional rule-making on the issue.

Info ministry rejects Afghan Taliban-linked claims of cross-border drone strikes

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The information ministry on Friday strongly rejected claims circulating from Afghan Taliban-linked propaganda channels alleging cross-border drone strikes on alleged Islamic State - Khorasan Province (ISKP) camps inside Pakistan, calling the reports "false as usual".

In a fact-check statement posted on X, the ministry said the allegations that Afghan Taliban forces had targeted supposed ISKP camps in the border areas of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan were "false" and part of a recurring pattern of propaganda. It further stated, "Terrorist camps, including that of Daesh and more than two dozen other terrorist organisations, are factually located, run and patronised from inside the territories under control of the Afghan Taliban regime." The post has an

image attached of a screenshot of an X post from the Afghan Defence Ministry account claiming that Afghan forces conducted airstrikes targeting alleged Daesh-linked sites in K-P and Balochistan. Rejecting the narrative, the statement called out the Afghan Taliban for attempting to divert attention from militant activity originating within Afghanistan, adding that such claims are routinely used "to cover their patronisation of terror waged in neighbouring countries and region."

The ministry also presented what it called the factual account of the incident, stating: "One rudimentary drone of the Taliban regime intruded inside Pakistan airspace near Shinko, Khyber. It was immediately identified and neutralised by the alert Air Defence system of the Pakistan Air Force." Concluding the post, the ministry said, "Truth prevails over falsehood."

Eight Arab-Islamic states condemn escalating violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in West Bank

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The foreign ministers of eight Arab-Islamic countries have strongly condemned the continued and escalating violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, including recent attacks on two mosques north of Ramallah. In a joint statement issued by the foreign ministers of Pakistan, Egypt, Türkiye, Indonesia, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates on Thursday, the ministers denounced attacks on the Grand Mosque in the village of Jiljilya and Al-Farouq Mosque in the village of Mazar'a al-Nubani.

The ministers said the attacks represented a blatant violation of the sanctity of religious sites and places of worship, as well as a breach of international law, including international humanitarian



law, and relevant United Nations resolutions. Expressing their "absolute rejection" of the attacks, the ministers also criticized the Israel's continued illegal measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. They warned that such actions contribute to instability, fuel violence and extremism, and undermine international efforts aimed at achiev-

ing peace in the region. The joint statement held Israel, as the occupying power, responsible for the attacks and called on the international community to fulfill its legal and moral obligations by taking effective measures to halt what it described as Israel's dangerous escalation in the occupied West Bank. The ministers urged the international community to pressure Israel to end its illegal practices, stop settler violence, and ensure accountability for those responsible for crimes against Palestinians. They stressed the importance of preventing perpetrators from acting with impunity. Reaffirming their unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people, the foreign ministers reiterated support for the Palestinians' legitimate and inalienable rights, particularly their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent and sovereign Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders.

Rana Sanaullah reiterates offer of political consultations to opposition

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Adviser on Political Affairs Senator Rana Sanaullah on Friday reiterated the government's willingness to engage with the opposition, saying dialogue remained the best way to resolve political issues in a democratic system.

Speaking to reporters, Rana Sanaullah said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's proposal for a "Charter of Stability for Pakistan" remained on the table and the government was prepared to discuss all matters with opposition parties. He said the offer of political consultations was still open and urged the opposition to respond positively. According to him, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) had informed the government that internal consultations on political dialogue were under way, while opposition parties had indicated they would convey their position after completing their own deliberations.

Rana Sanaullah said opposition parties had also supported the role played by the field marshal on recent national matters.

FM Dar, Iran's Araghchi express 'serious concerns' over ceasefire violations by Israel in Lebanon

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi expressed serious concern over ceasefire violations committed by Israel in Lebanon during a telephonic conversation on Friday, despite the US-Iran peace agreement. "The two leaders exchanged views on regional developments and highlighted the ceasefire violations committed by Israel in Lebanon, expressing serious concern over the situation," said a statement issued by



the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA). It added that FM Dar congratulated the leadership, government, and people of Iran on the signing of the "Islamabad Memorandum

of Understanding" with the US. "He also conveyed his best wishes for the commencement of the next phase of negotiations, expressing hope that the process would move smoothly and yield positive outcomes," MoFA said. Iranian FM Araghchi expressed gratitude for Pakistan's constructive and sustained mediation efforts that led to the end of the conflict in the region. "Araghchi also thanked FM Dar for Pakistan's facilitation of the repatriation of 30 Iranians, including eight fishermen rescued at sea by the United Kingdom (UK) and 22 crew members recently intercepted by the US.



Islamabad: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, chairs a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on State-Owned Enterprises (CCSOEs) at the Finance Division.

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National

DPO Mandi Bahauddin Honors SHO Qadirabad for Outstanding Performance

BY: ANI Correspondent:

MANDI BHAUDDIN--- DPO Mandi Bahauddin Kamran Amir Khan awarded a certificate of appreciation and cash prize to SHO Police Station Qadirabad, Inspector Adeel Zafar Bosal, in recognition of his outstanding performance in crime prevention, maintaining law and order, and professional service.

Speaking on the occasion, the DPO said that encouraging hard-working and dedicated officers is a longstanding tradition of the police department. He described such officers as valuable assets and appreciated their honesty, commitment, and professionalism.



Kamran Amir Khan congratulated Inspector Adeel Zafar Bosal and expressed confidence that he would continue serving the public, combating crime, and upholding the rule of law with the same dedication and professionalism in the future.

Gilgit Administration on High Alert Over Forecast Severe Weather Conditions

BY: ANI Correspondent:

GILGIT: The district administration has issued a high alert following forecasts of severe weather conditions across Gilgit-Baltistan from June 18 to 22.

According to the Meteorological Department, thunderstorms, strong winds and intermittent rainfall may trigger glacial lake outburst floods (GLOF), flash floods, landslides and debris flows, particularly in glacier-fed and vulnerable valleys.

Deputy Commissioner and Chairman District Disaster



Management Authority (DDMA) Captain (R) Arif Ahmed urged residents and tourists to avoid unnecessary travel and stay away from rivers, streams, glaciers and landslide-prone areas.

All relevant departments have been directed to remain on high alert, keep machinery and emergency staff ready, and ensure prompt response to any emergency situation. The district administration said it is closely monitoring the situation and has taken all necessary precautionary measures to safeguard lives and property.

YJA and Riphah University Host Seminar on Cybersecurity, AI and Digital Journalism



BY: ANI Correspondent:

RAWALPINDI--- Riphah International University in collaboration with the Young Journalists Association (YJA) organized an awareness seminar on cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and digital journalism, bringing together academics, journalists, media professionals and students.

The seminar aimed to highlight emerging challenges in the digital media landscape and equip young journalists with modern skills and awareness of evolving technologies.

Cybersecurity expert Saeed Najeeb-ul-Hassan warned about increasingly sophisticated cyber threats and advised the use of strong passwords, two-factor authentication, and caution while sharing personal data online. Professor Dr Hafeez-ur-Rehman emphasized that digital hygiene has become essential in today's connected world. Senior journalist Aamir Saeed Abbasi and PTV News anchor Mahwar Qureshi highlighted the growing influence of digital platforms, along with concerns over misinformation and journalistic ethics. Assistant Professor Dr Rashid Ammar

stressed the importance of AI literacy, noting its expanding role across education, healthcare, business, and media.

Speakers including Dr Zubair discussed the role of AI and cybersecurity in building public trust and combating misinformation in the digital age. At the conclusion, shields were distributed among speakers and certificates were awarded to participants. Organizers said such initiatives would continue to promote responsible journalism, cyber awareness, and the constructive use of emerging technologies.



Islamabad: Vice President of the Islamabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries (ICSTSI), Sardar Zahir Ahmed, presenting a bouquet to the Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines, Emmanuel R. Fernandez, while other distinguished guests are also present on the occasion.



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Govt. gives top priority to education in federal budget: Rabia Farooqi

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary for Federal Education and Professional Training Rabia Naseem Farooqi on Friday said the government has placed education at the top of its priorities in the federal budget, allocating substantial funds to improve access to quality education and equip students with skills required in a modern knowledge-based economy.

Participating in the budget debate in the National Assembly, she said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had declared an education emergency after assuming office, reflecting the government's focus on promoting education and empowering youth through quality learning and skill development.

She said efforts are underway to reduce illiteracy and provide young people with the tools needed to succeed in a rapidly changing, technol-

ogy-driven world.

Highlighting key initiatives, she said Rs22 billion has been allocated for the establishment and expansion of Daanish Schools across the country to provide quality education to talented students from underprivileged backgrounds. She informed the House that new Daanish Schools are also being planned in Sindh. A project in Karachi's Malir area has moved forward after land allocation in coordination with the Sindh government, while another project in Tando Muhammad Khan is also progressing with provincial support. She said improvement and upgradation work has been completed in 167 federal educational institutions. More than 20,000 students have been provided Chromebooks, while 437 smart boards have been installed and over 200 classrooms set up to support modern learning.

She added that 16 degree colleges

have been equipped with IT laboratories, while 62 digital learning hubs have been established to strengthen digital education infrastructure.

Farooqi said special attention is being given to teacher training, early childhood education, and improving access to education for all children, particularly girls.

She said these steps reflect the government's focus on not only upgrading infrastructure but also shaping a modern, inclusive and quality education system for the country's youth.

The parliamentary secretary said a Centre of Excellence for children with autism is being established in Islamabad to provide education, training and care for affected children.

She said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif laid the foundation stone of the project on December 3, 2024, and it is expected to be completed by December 2026.

72nd conjoined twins operation marks new Saudi medical milestone

ANI

ISLAMABAD: A Saudi medical team has successfully separated Filipino conjoined twins, Olivia and Gianna, during a complex six-hour surgery at King Abdullah Specialized Children's Hospital in Riyadh, marking another milestone in the Kingdom's internationally recognized conjoined twins programme.

According to Saudi Press Agency (SPA), the operation was carried out by the Saudi Conjoined Twins Programme (SCTP) at King Abdulaziz Medical City under the supervision of Adviser to the Royal Court

and Supervisor General of King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief), Dr. Abdullah Al Rabeeah.

Dr Al Rabeeah said the surgery was completed successfully after six hours with the participation of 22 consultants, specialists, nursing staff and technicians who worked together to ensure the highest standards of safety and precision. SPA told APP that the twins were joined at the chest and abdomen, sharing a liver and possibly part of the intestines. One of the children was also suffering from congenital heart defects that increased the complexity and risks of the operation.

Water injustice, not water scarcity, is destabilising vulnerable nations, says Musadik

ANI

BRUSSELS: Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Musadik Malik on Friday argued that the world's water crisis was fundamentally a question of justice rather than scarcity, saying vulnerable communities were increasingly suffering the combined effects of climate change and upstream control of transboundary rivers.

Addressing the Transboundary Water Resources Seminar organised by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) and the Embassy of Pakistan in Brussels, the minister said the problem facing millions of people was not simply floods or droughts, but that others often made decisions affecting water availability. "The problem is neither the scarcity of water nor the floods," he said. "It's someone else having their hand on the tap that allows for

the water to flow." To illustrate the human consequences of climate-related disasters, Dr Malik recounted the story of Iqbal Solangi, a farmer living where two Pakistani provinces meet. Solangi was hit by floods in 2010, rebuilt his life, suffered another devastating flood in 2012, recovered again, and was eventually displaced after a third disaster. According to the minister, seven generations of farming were lost, livestock accumulated over two generations disappeared, children dropped out of school and the family was forced to move to an urban area. "He was devastated by floods followed by droughts, droughts that would crack his land, followed by floods again and droughts again," Dr Malik said. The minister argued that Solangi's experience reflected a broader global challenge in which vulnerable populations bear the consequences of decisions they had no role in making.

"If someone else, who is not Solangi, decides when he's going to be inundated and when he's going to starve, then it doesn't become a problem of water; it becomes a problem of justice," he said. Dr Malik said Pakistan's experience was not unique, pointing to communities in Bangladesh and elsewhere whose lives depended on water flows they could not control. He also referred to women forced to walk long distances daily to fetch water after local water sources had receded. "This is not a crisis in her life. This is her life," he said. The minister described what he called a "double bind" facing climate-vulnerable countries. On one hand, he said, major carbon emitters were contributing to global warming, glacier melt and extreme weather events. On the other hand, upstream control of water resources added further pressure on downstream communities.

NA passes unanimous resolution appreciating leadership over US-Iran peace deal

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly on Friday passed a unanimous resolution appreciating Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, and the entire team engaged in the US-Iran negotiation process. The resolution, tabled by Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar, stated: "The House places on record its profound appreciation for the Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, and the entire team engaged in the process of

negotiations."

It said their sincere and tireless efforts had positioned Pakistan as a trusted neutral mediator on the global stage. The House also congratulated and appreciated the leadership of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States of America for the successful completion and signing of the historic peace deal.

The National Assembly noted with immense satisfaction and pride the landmark diplomatic breakthrough in the form of cessation of hostilities and the signing of an agreement on a framework for peace and stability between the United States and Iran.

It further recognized the negative fallout of the conflict on regional peace and stability, as well as on economic stability and energy security across the globe.

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SC restores removal of judicial officer, says judges must be beyond reproach

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan has ruled that a judicial officer found to have a tarnished reputation cannot continue serving in the judiciary even if a specific charge of corruption is not conclusively proved, restoring the penalty of removal from service and setting aside a tribunal's decision that had converted the punishment into compulsory retirement. A three-member bench comprising Justice Shahid Waheed, Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan and Justice Muhammad Shafi Siddiqui announced the judgment while deciding three connected petitions arising from disciplinary proceedings against a former additional district and sessions judge. The case originated from complaints alleging that the judicial officer had received illegal gratification for influencing judicial decisions while serving at Mailsi in district Vehari. The Lahore High Court initiated disciplinary proceedings after receiving adverse reports and complaints regarding his conduct and reputation. Following an

inquiry, the competent authority imposed the major penalty of removal from service in 2013. The judicial officer challenged both the removal order and adverse remarks recorded in his Performance Evaluation Report (PER) before the Punjab Subordinate Judiciary Service Tribunal. In a consolidated judgment delivered in January 2025, the tribunal held that evidence was insufficient to prove allegations of illegal gratification and modified the punishment from removal to compulsory retirement. The Lahore High Court challenged that decision before the Supreme Court, while the judicial officer sought complete exoneration, reinstatement in service and expunction of adverse remarks from his PER. In its detailed judgment authored by Justice Shahid Waheed, the Supreme Court upheld the tribunal's finding that there was insufficient evidence to establish the specific allegation of accepting illegal gratification. However, the Court maintained that the finding regarding the officer's bad reputation and questionable integrity was supported by evidence and could not be disturbed.

SP JPU Iqbal Khan reviews National Assembly security during budget session

ANI

ISLAMABAD: SP Judicial Protection Unit (JPU) Iqbal Khan visited the National Assembly and reviewed security arrangements in place during the ongoing parliamentary budget session.

An official told APP on Friday that the SP JPU inspected various security points and assessed the deployment of police personnel assigned to ensure the safety and security of lawmakers, officials and visitors. Iqbal met officers and personnel performing duties at the National Assembly and reviewed operational preparedness and implementation of security measures. The SP briefed officers and jawans on their responsibilities and directed them to remain vigilant and perform their duties with professionalism, dedication and a high sense of responsibility. He emphasized strict adherence to security protocols and instructed personnel to maintain a heightened level of alertness throughout the parliamentary session. The official said Islamabad Police remained committed to ensuring fool-proof security at important national institutions and taking all necessary measures to maintain.

IGP Rizvi reviews Muharram security, emergency preparedness in high-level meeting

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi chaired a high-level meeting to review security arrangements, traffic management and emergency preparedness ahead of Muharram-ul-Haram in the federal capital. An official told APP on Friday that the meeting was attended by DIG Islamabad, DG Safe City, AIG Logistics and

SSP Prisons, who discussed various operational and security matters. The official said the participants reviewed a comprehensive strategy relating to Muharram security, traffic management, emergency response mechanisms and public facilitation measures. IGP Rizvi directed officers to further strengthen security arrangements through the use of modern technology, effective coordination and timely response to emerging situations.

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Opinion

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Reduction in Fuel Prices: Will the Public Receive Real Relief?



Written BY:
Dr. Maqsood Ahmad Shanawar
Published BY:
ANI News Agency

The government's recent decision to significantly reduce fuel prices has been widely welcomed by the public. Petrol prices have been reduced by Rs. 74 per litre, while diesel prices have been cut by Rs. 67 per litre. This is undoubtedly a positive development, offering direct relief to vehicle owners, transport operators, and businesses that rely heavily on fuel for their daily operations.

However, a crucial question remains: Will this reduction in fuel prices translate into meaningful relief for the general public?

Whenever fuel prices increase, transportation costs rise, leading to higher prices for goods and services across the market. Businesses and traders often cite increased fuel costs as justification for raising the prices of essential commodities. Consequently, ordinary citizens face a higher cost of living, while their purchasing power continues to

decline.

Now that fuel prices have fallen substantially, people naturally expect the prices of everyday necessities to decrease as well. The public wants to see concrete measures that ensure the benefits of lower fuel costs reach all citizens, rather than being limited to those who purchase petrol or diesel directly.

Only a few months ago, fuel prices were close to their current level, yet many essential goods were available at considerably lower prices than they are today. If rising fuel costs were considered sufficient justification for increasing prices, then a significant reduction in fuel prices should logically result in lower costs for goods and services.

This is where the government's performance will truly be evaluated. Reducing fuel prices is an important step, but it represents only part of the solution. The greater challenge lies in ensuring that this reduction positively impacts the overall cost of living. Many citizens fear that the prices of food items, transportation fares, and other daily necessities may remain unchanged despite the decrease in fuel costs. If that happens, the announced relief will benefit only a limited segment of society,

while the majority continue to struggle with rising expenses.

The public does not need announcements and celebrations alone; they need tangible improvements in their daily lives. Most workers and salaried employees are still earning the same incomes they received before inflation significantly increased living costs. For them, genuine relief means lower prices for essential goods and services.

Therefore, the government must closely monitor markets, prevent unjustified price increases, and ensure that traders pass the benefits of reduced fuel costs on to consumers. Strong action against profiteering, hoarding, and price manipulation will be essential if the public is to experience real and lasting relief.

Lower fuel prices are certainly welcome news. However, their true value will ultimately be measured by their impact on the lives of ordinary citizens. If the prices of essential goods and services also decline, this decision will be remembered as a meaningful step toward improving public welfare. Otherwise, it may be viewed as little more than a temporary announcement with limited practical benefits.

Accurate Target

Syed Sardar Muhammad Khondai

Sometimes I wonder how human beings, inhabiting this fleeting world, endure such inexplicable suffering simply by existing. In an age increasingly defined by sycophancy and self-interest, the life of an honorable person does not merely become difficult; it often descends into tragedy. Seeking dignity, pleading for safety, and longing for the most basic expressions of human compassion, countless individuals endure hardships so profound that humanity itself ought to feel ashamed.

In my previous column, I wrote about the heartbreaking plight of a poor mother and her children. I posed a simple yet troubling question: Why does one human being destroy another's life with such cruelty, turning moments into lifelong anguish, and then take pride in this illusion of power?

I often reflect upon the Divine reminder that true power belongs to the Almighty alone. Human beings

may possess the ability to destroy, but they cannot create life. A life can be taken in an instant by the strong or the weak alike, yet restoring that life remains beyond the reach of any mortal. This reality serves as a timeless reminder that absolute sovereignty belongs only to God, while earthly power is both temporary and limited.

The world has witnessed powerful nations shape events according to their interests, while conflicts across the Muslim world have left behind trails of bloodshed, displacement, and unanswered questions. Yet accountability remains elusive, and justice often appears selective. Forgive this brief departure from my central theme, but it reflects a broader pattern that cannot be ignored.

Today, cunning is frequently celebrated as wisdom, deception is mistaken for vigilance, and shameless flattery is rebranded as diplomacy. We have become reluctant to examine ourselves. Why have so many voices of wisdom fallen silent? Why have those entrusted with moral leadership retreated from the public square?

The tragedy of our time is not merely the existence of falsehood but the growing inability to distinguish it from truth. In pursuit of wealth, status, and comfort, many abandon

their principles without hesitation. Self-interest has become so deeply entrenched that human suffering often passes unnoticed.

Who, then, will speak for the oppressed? Who will expose injustice and challenge those who wield power without conscience? Around us are countless individuals living through hardship, humiliation, and despair, yet society remains largely silent. Too often, convenience outweighs courage, and personal gain takes precedence over moral responsibility.

It is for this reason that I sometimes find myself asking a symbolic question: Is there a graveyard reserved for the conscienceless? A place where those who traded humanity for power, integrity for advantage, and compassion for indifference might finally confront the weight of their choices.

These reflections may sound harsh, but honest reflection is the first step toward reform. Silence in the face of injustice only deepens the wounds of society. If change is to come, it must begin with the awakening of conscience—within individuals, within institutions, and within the collective soul of our communities.

This discussion will continue in my next column.

The Bloodstained White Coat



BY:Dr. Hira Yousuf Khan
Published by ANI

The train from London to Wick sped through the English countryside. Green fields stretched endlessly beyond the window, dotted with quiet villages and rows of identical houses beneath a sky heavy with clouds. It was the end of a long journey, one that had left me physically, mentally, and emotionally exhausted.

Yet while the train moved forward, my thoughts traveled thousands of miles away—to the rugged valleys of Balochistan and the crowded streets of Karachi. Two names occupied my mind: Dr. Mahnoor Nasir and Martyr Dr. Mehruallah Tareen.

A day earlier, my thirteen-year-old daughter had looked at me and said, "Mama, you are my role model."

Her words stayed with me. They prompted a question that lingered long after our conversation ended: What truly defines a role model?

Is it professional success? Academic achievements? Social status?

I believe it is none of these alone.

A role model is someone who stands for truth, who refuses to remain silent in the face of injustice, and who possesses the courage to speak when silence is easier. As Muslims, we are taught that witnessing wrongdoing comes with responsibility. If we can stop it, we must. If we cannot, we should speak against it. And if even that is impossible, we must reject it in our hearts. Yet one question remains: Have we become too comfortable with silence?

Some individuals transcend their names. They become symbols of ser-

vice, sacrifice, and character. Dr. Mehruallah Tareen was one such individual.

Behind every doctor stands a story that few people fully understand. There are years of sacrifice, sleepless nights, relentless study, and emotional endurance. There are parents who invest their hopes and prayers in their children's futures. There are countless personal sacrifices made in pursuit of a profession dedicated to saving lives.

Medical degrees are not merely certificates. They represent years of commitment, perseverance, and service. They embody dreams nurtured by families and sustained through extraordinary effort.

When violence takes the life of a healthcare professional, it does not claim a single individual alone. It destroys years of dedication, extinguishes a source of hope for countless patients, and leaves families and communities carrying an immeasurable loss.

This is why the martyrdom of Dr. Mehruallah Tareen resonates far beyond his immediate circle. His loss is not only a family tragedy; it is a loss for society itself.

Before that grief had settled, another disturbing headline emerged: Dr. Mahnoor Nasir.

These incidents should not be viewed as isolated news stories. They represent a broader challenge to the values of service, humanity, and justice. When those who dedicate their lives to caring for others become vulnerable to violence and intimidation, society must confront difficult questions about its priorities and its commitment to protecting its healers.

How long will such tragedies remain confined to headlines? How long will public outrage fade while the underlying problems persist?

As writers, professionals, and citizens, we each carry a responsibility. Knowledge, awareness, and the ability to speak are trusts that must be used wisely. Remaining silent in the

face of injustice only strengthens those who perpetuate it.

A nation's true strength is not measured solely by economic growth, infrastructure projects, or development statistics. It is measured by how it protects its teachers, doctors, and public servants—the individuals who quietly sustain society every day.

Protecting healthcare professionals must become a national priority. Hospitals require stronger security measures. Attacks against medical workers must be investigated swiftly and prosecuted decisively. Institutions must create environments where those who serve humanity can perform their duties without fear.

Without such protections, claims of progress remain incomplete.

As the train approached its destination, one final question echoed in my thoughts:

When future generations look back at this era—or when we stand before our Creator and account for our actions—what will we say?

Will we say that we stood for justice and spoke against oppression?

Or will our silence become our legacy?

Martyr Dr. Mehruallah Tareen and Dr. Mahnoor Nasir represent more than individual stories. They symbolize courage, resilience, service, and sacrifice. Their examples remind us that knowledge and compassion are not merely professional qualities; they are among humanity's greatest strengths.

For the sake of future generations, let us not allow these stories to fade into forgotten headlines. Let us recognize their significance, raise awareness, and work toward meaningful change.

Silence often benefits the oppressor.

Awareness is the first step toward justice.

And protecting those who dedicate their lives to healing others is a responsibility that belongs to us all.

Jordan's growing role in Turkish foreign policy

DR. SINEM CENGİZ

Turkiye and Jordan were significantly affected by the Syrian civil war that lasted more than a decade. Now, with the collapse of the Bashar Assad regime in December 2024, a new dynamic has emerged along Türkiye's southern and Jordan's northern borders — one that calls for closer coordination between the two states.

Jordan, a relatively small state known for its neutral regional policy, has not traditionally occupied a prominent place in Turkish foreign policy. But its geopolitical importance is far too significant to neglect. It has crucial potential when it comes to countering shared regional security challenges. Recent high-level meetings between Ankara and Amman, therefore, merit a closer look to better understand the possibility for Turkish-Jordanian cooperation.

Jordan's King Abdullah paid an official visit to Türkiye last week at the invitation of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who received him at the Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul. King Abdullah's last visit to Türkiye took place in February 2019. Back then, the regional picture looked very different. Now, the region has been reshaped by a series of major events — from the Oct. 7 attacks to the Iran-Israel war and the fall of the Assad regime — that have fundamentally shifted the political and security dynamics surrounding these two countries.

With the fall of the Assad regime, Jordan has emerged as a key partner in Türkiye's regional policy, particularly regarding Syria and Gaza. For Türkiye, Jordan represents both a stabilizing actor on its southern periphery and a practical partner in managing the post-Assad regional order. Amman and Ankara have found themselves on the same page in regard to regional crises. Jordan therefore became part of a regional cooperation mechanism established between Türkiye, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon, which is aimed at coordinating responses to shared security challenges. Amman has hosted high-level regional security meetings led by Türkiye, bringing

together foreign ministers, defense ministers and intelligence chiefs to discuss counterterrorism efforts and broader regional threats. It was through Jordanian-Turkish cooperation that a joint mission to support Syria's fight against terrorist organizations, particularly Daesh, was established. At the request of the new leadership in Syria, this joint mission was set up to operate in Damascus, marking a concrete step toward institutionalized regional security cooperation. Jordan and Türkiye are also part of US President Donald Trump's Board of Peace, further highlighting their shared role in the Gaza peace process. In their joint statement, King Abdullah and Erdogan underscored the importance of preserving the territorial integrity, sovereignty and national unity of all regional states. This emphasis reflects a shared outlook. Jordan has long pursued a status quo-oriented foreign policy, prioritizing stability along its borders. Türkiye's support for a centralized and territorially unified Syria closely aligns with Jordanian interests in this regard. Both countries view fragmentation and instability in Syria as a direct threat to their security, making their policy convergence not only strategic but also necessary.

Jordan was also chosen to host NATO's first liaison office in the Middle East. This opened last September, underscoring the country's geopolitical importance. Jordan has been a member of NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue since 1995. As a NATO partner, Türkiye views the alliance's cooperation with Amman as increasingly significant, as its presence in the country will help strengthen the regional security architecture. Amman not only occupies a key position in terms of security cooperation, but also in economic coordination. Jordan and Türkiye, along with Syria, are working on a joint initiative to restore the historic Hejaz railway, focusing on the segment linking the three countries as part of efforts to rebuild regional transport and trade networks disrupted by years of conflict and border closures. Officials from the three countries have agreed on

preliminary terms to draft a memorandum of understanding covering the restoration of damaged railway lines.

At one time, the railway was referred to as the "Iron Silk Road" due to its economic, social and political importance. The railway is "a relic of the bygone dream of regional unity before wars, borders and more advanced modes of transportation rendered its services obsolete." Today, the three nations see its revival as both symbolic and strategic to restore regional connectivity, boost trade and contribute to post-war reconstruction. Another key cooperation between Ankara and Amman involves boosting the overland freight route from Jordan's Aqaba Port to Türkiye and onward to Eastern Europe through trilateral cooperation agreements.

Turkish Trade Minister Omer Bolat noted that Turkish contractors were invited to participate in Jordan's \$15 billion development and infrastructure projects.

Moreover, in 2011, Jordan signed an agreement with Türkiye on cooperating to develop nuclear energy, paving the way for closer ties between the two countries. This week, the Saudi Cabinet was authorized to negotiate and sign draft agreements on peaceful nuclear and atomic energy cooperation with the governments of Jordan and Türkiye.

Türkiye and Jordan are also collaborating on a road corridor that will allow Turkish trucks to reach Jordan and the Gulf countries via Syria. The corridor is expected to become fully operational next year, once remaining issues in Syria are resolved, and it is projected to significantly boost regional trade. Bolat emphasized the importance of this route, stating: "Once we revive these roads and railways as they existed before 2010, trade and people's prosperity will rapidly increase." His reference to the pre-2010 period is particularly significant.

Ankara views coordination with regional states as a crucial element of its regional policy and, within this context, Jordan appears to be a key potential partner in Türkiye's regional outlook.

— Arab news

Pakistan's Role in Global Peace and the Need for Reconciliation in Balochistan



Written By:Ch. Shabbir Balochistani
Published by:
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Pakistan's constructive and responsible role on the international stage has once again gained recognition in recent months. Through its efforts to promote dialogue, ease regional tensions, and support peaceful conflict resolution, Pakistan has demonstrated its capacity to contribute meaningfully to global peace and stability. These diplomatic achievements are a source of national pride and reinforce Pakistan's position as an important regional player and a credible partner in international affairs.

For years, Pakistan's adversaries—particularly India and certain other actors—have sought to portray the country as diplomatically isolated. Recent developments, however, tell a different story. Pakistan's growing engagement in regional and international matters has highlighted its ability to play a positive and constructive role in addressing complex challenges. These successes are not merely diplomatic victories; they also reflect the country's resilience, institutional maturity, and commitment to international cooperation.

Much of the credit for this progress belongs to Prime Minister Mian Shehbaz Sharif, who has carried forward the vision of Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif—one centered on economic stability, regional connectivity, balanced diplomacy, and the promotion of peace. Pakistan's military leadership, particularly Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, has likewise played a significant

role in safeguarding national interests, strengthening regional stability, and upholding the country's sovereignty and prestige. When political and military leadership work in harmony toward shared national objectives, the benefits are felt across the nation.

Yet this moment of diplomatic success also invites an important reflection. If Pakistan can advocate reconciliation and dialogue in international conflicts, it must demonstrate the same commitment to addressing challenges within its own borders. Promoting peace abroad should be matched by efforts to foster political stability, national cohesion, and social harmony at home.

Nowhere is this more relevant than in Balochistan. As Pakistan's largest province by area, Balochistan occupies a central place in the country's strategic, economic, and developmental future. Its significance extends far beyond geography; it is intrinsically linked to national security, economic growth, and regional connectivity. Consequently, the challenges facing Balochistan should not be viewed solely through a security lens but as a matter of national importance requiring a comprehensive and inclusive approach.

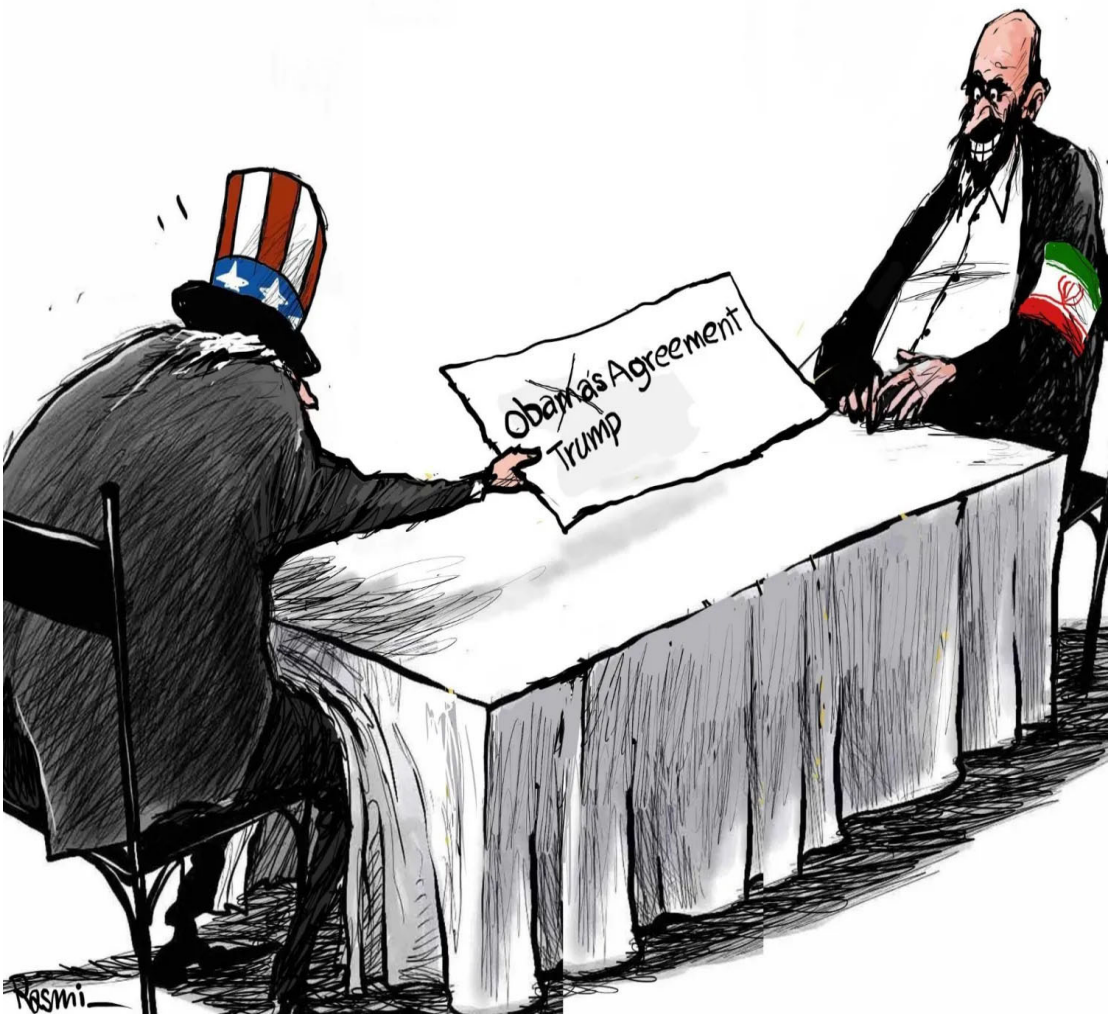
There can be no compromise on the writ of the state, the supremacy of the Constitution, or the protection of national security. The state has both the authority and the responsibility to act against those who challenge constitutional order through violence or armed insurgency. Maintaining law and order remains essential for the preservation of peace and stability. However, alongside the enforcement of law, avenues for dialogue and political engagement must remain open.

History repeatedly demonstrates that enduring peace cannot be achieved through force alone. Sustainable stability emerges from political wisdom,

public trust, economic opportunity, and meaningful dialogue. In Balochistan, all individuals and groups willing to pursue their concerns within the constitutional framework should be encouraged to engage in constructive discussions. Those who choose to abandon violence and participate in the democratic process should be given the opportunity to become stakeholders in peace and development.

Equally important is the empowerment of Balochistan's youth. Expanding employment opportunities, improving access to quality education and healthcare, investing in infrastructure, and ensuring meaningful participation in national decision-making are essential steps toward long-term stability. Addressing perceptions of marginalization and restoring public confidence are critical for building a prosperous and peaceful future.

As Pakistan continues to advocate peace, dialogue, and reconciliation on the global stage, it must uphold the same principles within its own society. International mediation may enhance the country's standing abroad, but the true measure of success lies in strengthening unity, harmony, and stability at home. The national interest demands that political leaders, state institutions, and all segments of society work together toward a shared vision of progress and prosperity. Pakistan today stands at a pivotal moment. It has an opportunity to transform diplomatic achievements into lasting internal stability and national cohesion. If the country can champion peace in the international arena, it can also cultivate peace, understanding, and development within its own borders. That is the path toward a stronger, more united, and more prosperous Pakistan—one that is respected abroad and stable at home.



ICCI Hosts Reception in Honour of Tamgha-e-Imtiaz Awardee Dr. Anam Fatima



BY: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD--- Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) hosted a reception in honour of Dr. Anam Fatima, Chief Officer Municipal Corporation Islamabad (MCI), on being awarded the Tamgha-e-Imtiaz.

Addressing the ceremony, Dr. Anam Fatima said transparency, digitization and stakeholder engagement are key to improving civic services and good governance. She highlighted that MCI has introduced

major reforms including digitization of taxes and permits, online systems for parking permits, generator licenses, open-space permits and fee collection, aimed at reducing public inconvenience and eliminating unnecessary human interaction.

She said birth and death registration services have also been digitized, while enforcement operations are being carried out with dignity and respect. Dr. Anam added that MCI is focusing on environmental improvement, drainage restoration, water resource protection and removal of

encroachments, with continued priority to issues faced by markets and the business community.

ICCI President Sardar Tahir Mehmood congratulated her on the award and praised her leadership in promoting transparency and responsiveness in municipal governance. Other business leaders and representatives also appreciated her efforts in civic reforms, women empowerment and stakeholder engagement, terming her role instrumental in improving relations between MCI and the business community.

Attorney General’s Skills Development Initiative Empowers Khushab Youth with Modern Digital Expertise

BY: ANI Correspondent :

SARGODHA--- Under the patronage of Attorney General of Pakistan, Mansoor Usman Awan, a modern skills development initiative is equipping youth in Soon Valley, Sakaser, and District Khushab with advanced digital and technical expertise.

At Vocational Training Institute (VTI) Quaidabad and other government technical centers, more than 200 male and female students are receiving training in Artificial Intelligence (AI), automation technologies, intelligent assistant systems, digital services development, and other emerging fields.

The program aims to prepare

young people for future employment opportunities, promote self-reliance, and support national development. Local educational and social circles have praised the initiative, expressing optimism that it will help reduce unemployment and create new pathways for entrepreneurship and professional growth in the region.

Pakistan, Philippines Reaffirm Commitment to Boost Trade Ties at ICSTSI

BY: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries (ICSTSI) organized a dignified ceremony at Jahangir Akhtar Hall on the occasion of the Philippines National Day, attended by Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines Emmanuel R. Fernandez as the chief guest.

During the event, ICSTSI President Muhammad Owais Satti and the Filipino ambassador discussed bilateral relations, trade, investment opportunities, and enhanced business-to-business cooperation between Pakistan and the Philippines. Both sides emphasized the need to strengthen economic ties and create new avenues for traders of both countries.

Muhammad Owais Satti said the chamber is playing an active role in promoting international trade relations and facilitating cooperation between business communities. Ambassador Fernandez appreciated the hospitality and reaffirmed his commitment to expanding trade and economic relations.

The event was attended by senior vice president Sheikh Tayyab Saeed, vice president Sardar Zahir Ahmed, and other prominent business figures. Participants expressed hope that such engagements would further strengthen bilateral trade, investment, and friendship between the two countries.



Shafay Hussain, Haroon Akhtar Discuss Measures to Accelerate Industrialization



BY: ANI Correspondent:

RAWALPINDI--- Provincial Minister for Industries & Commerce Chaudhry Shafay Hussain met Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for Industries & Production Haroon Akhtar Khan at the Pak Secretariat, Islamabad, where matters related to accelerating industrialization were discussed.

During the meeting, Haroon Akhtar Khan also inquired about the health of PML-Q leader Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain. Speaking on the occasion, Chaudhry Shafay Hussain said the Punjab government has

taken revolutionary steps for industrial promotion under the leadership of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif. He said investors are being provided facilities under one-window operations and world-class infrastructure in industrial estates.

He added that a new Land Lease Policy has been introduced to boost industrial growth, while the practice of property business in industrial estates has been ended. Under the new policy, setting up an industrial unit within two years of acquiring land is now mandatory.

Shafay Hussain further said that mobile phone and chip frame manu-

facturing will soon begin in Faisalabad Industrial Estate, while several new industrial units have already been established and many existing industries are expanding. He added that multiple Chinese companies have invested in Punjab, with more expected to follow.

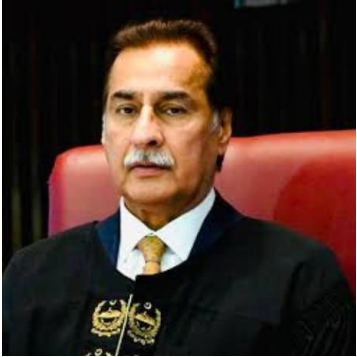
Haroon Akhtar Khan praised the Land Lease Policy as a positive step and said it would accelerate industrial development, adding that industrialization is the future of Pakistan. He also noted that the government is introducing a Seed Development Policy to enhance agricultural productivity.

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Hails Historic Diplomatic Achievement, Praises PM Shehbaz Sharif

BY: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD: During the National Assembly budget session 2026-27, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq congratulated Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif for signing the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding as a mediator.

He said the development was a moment of pride not only for Parliament and the government but for the entire nation, adding that the achievement had elevated Pakistan's global standing. He termed it a historic diplomatic success, stating that such an outcome



had not been achieved before.

The Speaker said the success was the result of Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif's leadership, peace-oriented approach and effective diplomacy. He also lauded Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar, Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, and Interior Minister Senator Mohsin Raza Naqvi for their efforts and professionalism.

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq further appreciated the efforts of the Prime Minister's team and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also requested the Prime Minister to address the House on this historic occasion and brief members about the details of the diplomatic breakthrough.

Punjab Ministers Review Muharram Security and Public Facilitation Arrangements in Faisalabad

BY: ANI Special Correspondent:

FAISALABAD: On the directions of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, a high-level Cabinet Committee meeting was held to review security, law and order, traffic management, and public facilitation arrangements for the first ten days of Muharram-ul-Haram in Faisalabad Division.

Punjab Minister for Information and Culture Azma Bukhari, Transport Minister Bilal Akbar Khan, and Special Assistant to the Chief Minister Zeeshan Malik attended the meeting and later visited the Central Imambargah and key Muharram procession routes.

Commissioner Faisalabad Musarrat Jabeen and RPO Sohail Akhtar Sukhera briefed participants on the comprehensive security plan and administrative measures. Azma Bukhari directed district administrations and police officials to maintain close coordination with procession and Majalis organizers and ensure strict implementation of



security arrangements.

She emphasized the provision of uninterrupted electricity, drinking water, fans, and other essential facilities for participants. Muharram Control Rooms will remain operational round the clock to address public complaints promptly.

The minister also announced enhanced monitoring of social media through a Quick Response Force to curb fake news, sectarian

content, and hate material. She added that all procession and Majalis routes across Faisalabad Division will be monitored through Safe City cameras, while traffic authorities will guide citizens through alternative routes to ensure smooth movement during Muharram.

Azma Bukhari said maintaining peace and harmony during Muharram-ul-Haram remains the Punjab government's top priority.

DIG Crime Sindh Aamir Farooqui visits Hyderabad Women Police Station and One Stop Protection Cell (OSPC), meets representatives of UNICEF and social welfare organizations



BY: ANI Special Reporter:

HYDERABAD: DIG Crime Sindh Aamir Farooqui visited the Women Police Station and One Stop Protection Cell (OSPC) Hyderabad to review measures for the protection and welfare of women and children.

The meeting was attended by police officers, representatives of UNICEF, the Social Welfare Department, Legal Aid, the Women Police Station and One Stop Protection Center, and other welfare organizations. Aamir Farooqui appreciated the role of government institutions, NGOs, and social work-

ers in providing timely support, justice, and protection to vulnerable women and children. He described Hyderabad's OSPC as a model facility that offers prompt and dignified assistance under one roof through coordination between police and welfare organizations.

easypaisa and Binance Sign MoU to Explore Digital Financial Technology Growth in Pakistan



BY: Hurish Shah:

ISLAMABAD: Easypaisa digital bank and Binance have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Islamabad to explore emerging financial technologies and innovative digital savings and investment solutions in Pakistan.

The MoU was signed by Jahanzeb Khan, President & CEO of easypaisa digital bank, and Tarik Erk, Regional

Head MENAT and SEO Abu Dhabi at Binance, in the presence of senior representatives from both organizations. Under the agreement, both sides will engage in exploratory discussions to identify potential areas of collaboration aimed at developing Pakistan's digital financial ecosystem, subject to regulatory approvals and compliance requirements.

Officials from both companies highlighted the importance of

responsible innovation, financial inclusion, and technology-driven growth in Pakistan's rapidly expanding digital economy.

The collaboration reflects growing interest in digital finance, with both parties emphasizing awareness, education, and capacity-building initiatives to support future development in line with regulatory frameworks including SBP and PVARA.