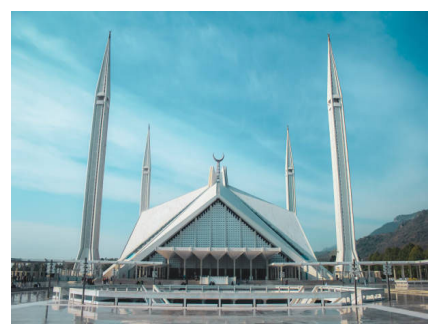


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PM calls for national innovation ecosystem to advance indigenous robotics technology



ANI

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Wednesday, urged all stakeholders to become part of a unified national innovation ecosystem, stressing the need to develop indigenous knowledge and technological capabilities in Pakistan.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony of the "Indus RAS - Robotics and Autonomous Systems Expo 2026", the prime minister said Pakistan must embrace the technological revolution while ensuring that its benefits reach every segment of society.

"Let our universities, research and development centres, startups, industries, and farmers become part of one national innovation ecosystem, ensuring that the knowl-

edge behind these technologies is indigenous, owned, and continuously advanced in Pakistan," he said.

The prime minister emphasized that the robotics and autonomous systems revolution should not remain confined to advanced economies, large corporations, or major cities. Instead, he said, it should become a catalyst for inclusive growth by improving the lives of farmers, small businesses, women entrepreneurs, young innovators, and underserved communities across Pakistan and the Global South.

Highlighting the rapid advancement of emerging technologies, Shehbaz Sharif said their increasing power also placed greater responsibility on governments and stakeholders.

As these technologies become more powerful, the prime minister said their responsibility also grew simultaneously.

"We must establish clear regulatory and ethical frameworks to ensure autonomous systems are safe, secure, transparent, and always used for the benefit of mankind," he said.

The prime minister reiterated the government's commitment to promoting innovation and technological development while ensuring that emerging technologies are deployed responsibly and inclusively for sustainable national progress.

The ceremony was attended by Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, federal ministers, experts, industrialists, entrepre-

neurs, foreign delegates, brands, companies and students.

The prime minister further announced two landmark initiatives of the government which would shape the future of robotics and autonomous systems in the country; including launching the Spark and Elevate programme to transform Pakistan's research into world-class technologies, globally competitive enterprises, and high productive jobs and establishing the Pakistan Venture Fund with an initial commitment of \$20 million to catalyse investment in our technology ecosystem. The prime minister said the future of robots and autonomous machines that Pakistan seeks is not merely a story of technology.

Security forces kill 10 terrorists, arrest two female suicide bombers in Balochistan

ANI

RAWALPINDI: Security forces killed 10 terrorists and apprehended two female suicide bombers and a facilitator during multiple intelligence-based operations in Balochistan over the past 48 hours, the military's media wing said on Wednesday.

The intelligence-based operations are part of the recently launched Operation Shaban, a joint operation by the Pakistan Army, Frontier Corps (FC), and Balochistan Police launched in the aftermath of the terrorist attack on Mangi Dam Police Station and remain underway, with forces intensifying action against terrorists belonging to Fitna al-Khawarij across the province.

Fitna al-Khawarij is the term the state uses for terrorists belonging to the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). In a statement, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said the operations were conducted "in continuation of security forces operations against the terrorist nexus of Indian sponsored Fitna al-Hindustan and Fitna al-Khawarij."

The statement said that comprehensive joint operations are being carried in different parts of Balochistan to weed out remnants of terrorists and their facilitators. According to the ISPR, security forces carried out "multiple intelligence-based area sanitisation and targeted operations in District Surab and District Mastung of Balochistan," during the last 48 hours, "during which ten terrorists were killed." The military said security forces "effectively engaged the terrorist locations" in Surab district, "killing seven terrorists." In a separate operation in Mastung district, "three terrorists were killed, and two female suicide bombers along with a facilitator were also apprehended belonging to Indian-sponsored Fitna al-Hindustan," the statement said.

The ISPR further said that weapons, ammunition and improvised explosive devices used by terrorists were also recovered from the terrorists. It added that sanitisation operations were continuing in the area "to eliminate any other Indian sponsored terrorist found in the area." Reaffirming its commitment to counter-terrorism, the military said the "relentless Counter Terrorism campaign



under vision 'Azm-e-Istehkam' by security forces and law enforcement agencies of Pakistan will continue at full pace to wipe out menace of foreign sponsored and supported terrorism from the country." In a statement, President Asif Ali Zardari paid tribute to the security forces for killing the 10 terrorists, saying the operations against militant networks were essential for maintaining national peace. The president said the security forces' "effective operations against the Indian-sponsored Fitna al-Hindustan and Fitna al-Khawarij terrorist networks in Balochistan are indispensable for national peace." President Zardari reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve to combat terrorism, saying "the fight against terrorism fuelled by foreign interference will continue."

He also expressed solidarity with the country's security personnel, saying "the entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with the security forces and law enforcement agencies in the fight against terrorism." Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also praised security forces for carrying out a successful operation, reaffirming the government's resolve to continue the fight against terrorism.

He said, "terrorists are enemies of Balochistan and its people's development and prosperity." PM Shehbaz added that "no one will be allowed to destroy the peace of Balochistan." Reaffirming the government's commitment to counterterrorism, the prime minister said, "the fight will continue until the scourge of terrorism is eliminated from the country."

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi also praised the security forces, describing the actions as a significant step toward ensuring peace and stability in the province.

S&P Global upgrades Pakistan's credit rating to 'B'



ANI

Standard & Poor's (S&P) Global on Tuesday upgraded Pakistan's long-term sovereign credit rating to 'B' from 'B-'. Pakistan was last assigned a 'B' rating between October 31, 2016 and February 3, 2019. S&P Global also raised Pakistan's transfer and convertibility assessment to 'B' from 'B-'. The upgrade reflects stronger institutional capacity, sustained implementation of reforms backed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), improved fiscal performance and a significant rebuilding of foreign exchange reserves. In an official release, S&P Global said it believed "Pakistan has strengthened institutional capacity, demonstrated through the implementation of critical reforms." This, it said, "has bolstered the country's foreign exchange reserves and alleviated pressure on external credit metrics." The agency

also said the government's efforts to expand its revenue base had accelerated fiscal consolidation, facilitating "a steady decline in its net general government debt-to-GDP ratio." "We therefore raised our long-term sovereign rating on Pakistan to 'B'. At the same time, we affirmed the 'B' short-term rating," the update read. The stable outlook, it added, "reflects our expectations that improved institutional settings will anchor economic reforms to bring about a sustained period of steady growth and fiscal consolidation."

The progress, it said, reflected the agency's view of Pakistan's improved political and institutional settings. It added that sustained official financing would help the country meet its external obligations and continue rolling over its commercial credit lines over the next 12 months.

However, the agency said it could lower its ratings if, "contrary to our expectations", Pakistan's external or fiscal indicators deteriorate due to a diminished commitment to fiscal consolidation. "This could erode financial support from key bilateral and multilateral partners, pressuring usable foreign exchange reserves," it added. The agency also noted, "if interest rates surge again materially adding to the government's already-heavy debt servicing burden, we would view that as an indication of domestic financing stress," which may prompt it to lower Pakistan's ratings.

Pakistan, Iran pledge deeper security cooperation as interior ministers hold high-level talks



ANI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Iran reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation in security, border management and regional stability as Iranian Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni held wide-ranging talks with Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi during his three-day official visit to Islamabad.

The visit underscored the growing momentum in Pakistan-Iran relations, with both sides agreeing to intensify collaboration in counterterrorism, counternarcotics, curbing illegal immigration and preventing human smuggling while stressing the importance of coordinated efforts to address shared security challenges along

the Afghan border.

Upon his arrival at the Ministry of Interior, the Iranian interior minister was accorded a warm welcome by Mohsin Naqvi. A smartly turned-out contingent of the Federal Constabulary presented a guard of honour to the visiting dignitary, reflecting the significance Pakistan attached to the high-level engagement. The ceremony was followed by the introduction of members of the Iranian delegation to Pakistani officials, while the Iranian minister was introduced to the heads of the Ministry of Interior's attached departments and agencies. The two interior ministers first held a one-on-one meeting before leading their respective delegations in comprehensive talks covering bilateral relations, regional developments and avenues for expanding cooperation between the neighbouring countries. The discussions placed particular emphasis on strengthening institutional coordination in combating terrorism and narcotics trafficking, with both sides agreeing that closer collaboration was essential to effectively tackle cross-border security threats.

Pakistan reserves right to use force to counter Houthi maritime threats: FO

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Wednesday strongly condemned continued threats by Houthi militia against commercial shipping in the Red Sea and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, warning that it reserved the right under international law to use necessary force to protect its maritime interests from any hostile acts.

Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi, in a statement, reaffirmed that any hostile act against Pakistani-flagged vessels or Pakistani maritime interests would be regarded as a grave threat to Pakistan's national security and sovereign interests. "Consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, Pakistan reserves its right to take all necessary measures, including lawful use of force, in the exercise of self-defence to protect its maritime assets and national interests," he remarked. He highlighted Pakistan's unequivocal condemnation of the continued threats issued by the Houthi militia against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and commercial shipping in the Red Sea. Such actions threaten regional security, undermine freedom of navigation, challenge the rules-based maritime order and jeopardise uninterrupted flow of global commerce, he added.



time assets and national interests," he remarked. He highlighted Pakistan's unequivocal condemnation of the continued threats issued by the Houthi militia against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and commercial shipping in the Red Sea. Such actions threaten regional security, undermine freedom of navigation, challenge the rules-based maritime order and jeopardise uninterrupted flow of global commerce, he added.

"Threats against commercial shipping and trading with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are unacceptable and violate established principles of international law. Pakistan is particularly concerned by reports of threats directed against vessels engaged in lawful commercial trade with the Kingdom," the spokesperson remarked.

He said that Pakistan was deeply concerned over attempts to drag the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia into the conflict in the Middle East and reiterated its unwavering support for the security, sovereignty, territorial integrity and prosperity of the brotherly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. "While remaining steadfast in its commitment to dialogue, diplomacy and regional de-escalation, Pakistan calls upon all parties to respect international law and ensure the safety and security of international maritime shipping," Spokesperson Andrabi added.

K-P rain death toll rises to 20, more rain forecast: PDMA

ANI

MIRANSHAH/ PESHAWAR: At least 20 people died, and 19 others were injured in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) since July 19 after heavy rains and flash floods triggered roof and wall collapses and swept people away in floodwaters, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) said on Wednesday.

According to the PDMA, the deceased included seven men, eight children and three women, while the injured comprised 11 men, four women and four children. The authority said the rain-related incidents were reported in Peshawar, Nowshera, Khyber, Mardan, Buner, Bajaur, Shangla, Swabi, Lower Chitral, Upper and Lower Dir, Abbottabad, Mansehra, Tor Ghar, Kurram, and North and South Waziristan. The PDMA said 30 houses had been damaged by the heavy rains and flash floods, including 23 partially damaged and seven destroyed. Two people were killed after being swept away by flash floods in the Tuchi River, which rose to a high flood level following continuous heavy rainfall in North Waziristan.

Bilawal Pledges AJK Rights Protection, Targets PML-N

ANI

Escalating the political battle ahead of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Legislative Assembly elections, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Wednesday accused the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) of pursuing an "anti-Kashmir" agenda, alleging it wanted to strip the AJK prime minister of key powers and urging voters to give his party a big mandate in the first phase of polls to be held on July 27.

Addressing an election rally in Mirpur, some 300 kilometres from the AJK capital, Bilawal said the



upcoming election would determine the future of the Kashmiri people and pledged that the PPP would continue to champion their political, constitutional and economic rights at every forum. "The July 27 election is a decision about

the future of the Kashmiri people. Use the power of your vote to protect your rights," he told party workers. Launching a blistering attack on the PML-N, Bilawal alleged that some federal ministers had offended AJK residents by claiming that the people of Mirpur and Rawalakot were "not Kashmiris." "Such statements reflect the PML-N's anti-Kashmir mindset. The people will give their answer through the ballot box," he said. The PPP chairman said his party believed in democracy, equality and the protection of public rights rather than the "politics of hatred, division and prejudice."



Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, met with U.S. Treasury Secretary Mr. Scott Bessent in Washington, D.C.

Tarar Calls for Education, Innovation Investment

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law, Justice and Human Rights, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar on Wednesday said that nations investing in knowledge and human capital were the ones shaping the future, and called for strengthening education, scientific research and innovation across the Muslim world. Addressing the Inter-Islamic Forum for the Advancement of Education, Scientific Research and Innovation at the OIC-COMSTECH Secretariat, he said access to quality education and scientific knowledge empowered individuals, reduced inequality, promoted tolerance, strengthened democratic values and contributed to peace, justice and sustainable development. He reaffirmed the government's unwavering support for initiatives promoting higher education, scientific research, technological advancement, innovation and human resource development. The forum, organized by OIC-COMSTECH, brought together distinguished policymakers, parliamentarians, diplomats, university leaders, scientists and scholars from Pakistan and across the Muslim world to explore



avenues for enhancing collaboration in higher education, scientific research and innovation. Among the participants were Mohamed Adan Khalif, Governor of Mandera County, Kenya; Tuan Jaziri Alkaf, Senator of Malaysia and Chairman of MyProdigy Foundation Malaysia; Prof. Dr. Shahid Mahmud, Honorary Advisor, OIC-COMSTECH; Dr. Salma Noor,

Founder and Patron of Dream Team CBO; Vice Admiral (R) Abid Hameed HI(M), Rector, Bahria University, besides ambassadors, vice chancellors, eminent scientists, scholars and delegates from Kenya, Malaysia and other OIC member states. In his welcome address, Coordinator General OIC-COMSTECH Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary welcomed the distin-

guished guests and participants, emphasizing that education, science, technology and innovation remained the most effective instruments for achieving sustainable development and socio-economic progress in the Muslim world. He highlighted COMSTECH's expanding portfolio of initiatives, including scholarships, fellowships, research collaboration, capacity-building programmes and the COMSTECH Consortium of Excellence, which connects leading universities across OIC member states to promote academic mobility, joint research and scientific cooperation. He reaffirmed COMSTECH's commitment to strengthening partnerships among universities, governments, research institutions and international organizations to build a vibrant knowledge economy across the Islamic world. Senator Tarar commended OIC-COMSTECH for its remarkable achievements under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary in creating educational and research opportunities for thousands of students, researchers, scientists and universities across the Islamic world.

APPROA defers nationwide strike after talks with petroleum minister

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The All-Pakistan Petroleum Pump Owners Association (APPROA) on Wednesday deferred its nationwide strike after successful negotiations with Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik, who assured dealers that their longstanding concerns, including the issue of dealers' margins, would be resolved. Addressing a joint press conference with APPROA representatives, Malik said the government was aware of the challenges faced by petroleum dealers, particularly issues involving oil marketing companies (OMCs) and other stakeholders. He said the Petroleum Division and the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) would hold detailed consultations with dealers to address their concerns. The minister said the long-pending issue of dealers' margins, unresolved for several years, would be taken to the federal cabinet in consultation with OGRA. A summary outlining a way forward would be submitted to ensure legitimate dealers receive a fair margin to cover their operational costs. "I assure the dealer community, on behalf of the ministry and the OGRA chairman, that this longstanding issue will be resolved," he said. Malik said another round of consultations with APPROA representatives would be held within two weeks to review the implementation of the understanding reached during the meeting.

FPSC rejects media reports of declining youth interest in CSS

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC) has clarified that young people's interest in the Central Superior Services (CSS) remains strong, with registrations for the CSS Screening Test (MPT) 2025 reaching the highest level in the past five years. According to the spokesperson of FPSC 64,081 candidates have registered for the CSS Screening Test (MPT) 2025, reflecting an increase of about 3.8% compared to 2022. The commission strongly rejected recent media reports claiming a decline in youth interest in the civil services as unfounded and inaccurate. The commission said the Screening Test (MPT) is the most reliable indicator of interest in the civil services, as every candidate is required to qualify this mandatory stage before appearing in the written examination. The spokesperson said the media report ignored key facts and registration data related to the screening test, adding that the figures cited for 2022 were also inaccurate.

Zawiya, Allama Iqbal Council launch three books by Zulfiqar Ahmad Cheema

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Literary and cultural organisation Zawiya and the Allama Iqbal Council jointly organised the launch ceremony of three books authored by renowned former Inspector General of Police (IGP), civil servant, scholar and columnist Zulfiqar Ahmad Cheema at the Islamabad Club on Wednesday. The books launched included Cheema's autobiography, Jihad-e-Musalsal, along with Afkar-e-Taza and Aur Samajhta Hoon Jise Haq. The ceremony was presided over by eminent poet and literary figure Iftikhar Arif, while Chairperson of the Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL), Dr Najeeba Arif, attended as the chief guest. The event was moderated by Mehboob Zafar and attended by writers, intellectuals, civil servants, liter-

ary enthusiasts and members of civil society. Speaking on the occasion, prominent novelist and scholar Hameed Shahid described Jihad-e-Musalsal as much more than a personal memoir, saying it presents a broader reflection on society alongside the author's life journey. Zawiya, Allama Iqbal Council launch three books by Zulfiqar Ahmad Cheema He noted that Cheema had candidly narrated both his successes and failures, reflecting his honesty, moral character and unwavering principles. He said the book's uniqueness lies in its emphasis on life's trials rather than achievements alone, adding that it conveys an



important message: the true strength of the police does not lie in weapons but in the trust and confidence of the public. Addressing the ceremony, Dr Najeeba Arif congratulated Zulfiqar Ahmad Cheema on the publication of his books and praised his lifelong commitment to integrity and public service. She said Afkar-e-Taza, a collection of columns, provides thoughtful

insights into Pakistan's social and political history, while Jihad-e-Musalsal offers an engaging account of the author's distinguished career and his unwavering honesty, fairness and professionalism as a police officer. She expressed the hope that the country would produce more officers of such integrity and character. In his remarks, Zulfiqar Ahmad Cheema thanked the distinguished guests and participants for attending the ceremony and for their generous appreciation of his work. He said he had always strived to write with honesty and sincerity, adding that his objective was to promote positive values, an organised society and a truly democratic and prosperous Pakistan. Presiding over the event, Iftikhar Arif described Jihad-e-Musalsal as an authentic, engaging and inspiring autobiography.

Pakistan, Iran agree to expand rail connectivity, trade cooperation

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi said on Wednesday that Pakistan and Iran have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations, expanding railway cooperation and enhancing regional connectivity. During a meeting with Iranian Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni, Hanif Abbasi welcomed him to Pakistan and said the visit was an important step towards further deepening the longstanding brotherly ties between the two neighbouring countries. Iran's Ambassador to Pakistan, Dr. Reza Amir Moghadam, also attended the meeting, said a news release. The minister paid tribute to the resilience, determination and steadfastness demonstrated by the Iranian nation, government and leadership during the recent crisis. Hanif Abbasi also expressed respect for Iran's Supreme Leader and paid homage to the innocent civilians who lost their lives during the crisis. The two leaders reaffirmed their resolve to further strengthen the religious, histori-

cal and cultural bonds between Pakistan and Iran and stressed the importance of promoting peace, stability, diplomatic engagement and mutual cooperation across the region. The meeting focused on expanding railway cooperation, improving cross-border connectivity and facilitating bilateral trade through enhanced rail links. Hanif Abbasi informed the delegation that work on the upgradation of Main Line-3 (ML-3) is expected to commence during the current fiscal year, with completion anticipated by December 2029. He said ML-3 would serve as the principal railway corridor linking Pakistan and Iran and would significantly boost bilateral trade and regional connectivity upon completion. The minister also appreciated the cooperation extended by the Iranian government and Iranian Railways in the restoration of the Zahedan-Taftan railway section. He said Taftan Railway Station had been designated as a customs clearance station at the request of Iranian Railways, a move that would facilitate cross-border freight movement and shunting operations.

PMD warns of rising water levels in GB, KP rivers due to accelerated glacier melt, rainfall

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) Wednesday warned of a significant rise in water levels in rivers, streams and nullahs across the glaciated regions of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) due to accelerated snow and glacier melt, coupled with recent rainfall, cautioning that the prevailing condi-

tions could trigger localized flooding and riverbank erosion. According to the PMD, real-time observations from the hydrometeorological monitoring network installed for Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) monitoring in different valleys indicate that many snow-fed and glacier-fed watercourses are currently flowing at peak levels as a result of accelerated snow and glacier melt, combined with recent rains.

Pakistan achieves historic success at IMO 2026

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has achieved a landmark success at the 67th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 2026, held in Shanghai, China, by securing two Bronze Medals and two Honorable Mentions. The national team also recorded Pakistan's highest-ever aggregate score in the history of its participation at the International Mathematical Olympiad, marking the country's most successful performance at the world's most prestigious mathematics competition. Before competing at the IMO, the Pakistan team participated in a Chinese Mathematics Competition organized by the Beijing Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Applications (BIMSA) in Beijing, where the students delivered another impressive performance by securing two third-place positions. The competition provided valuable international exposure and strengthened the team's



preparation ahead of the Olympiad. The selection and preparation of Pakistan's IMO team is undertaken through a collaborative national framework. The STEM Careers Program, a joint initiative of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and the Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (PIEAS), conducts the initial screen-

ing of talented students through the Pakistan National Science Talent Contest (NSTC). Following the national selection process, the Department of Mathematics at COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI), Lahore Campus serves as the National Training Center for Pakistan's International Mathematical Olympiad Team.

FIA Arrests Three in Passport Agent Mafia Crackdown

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Anti-Corruption Circle Islamabad has busted an organized network of touts operating outside the G-10 Passport Office, arresting three suspects allegedly involved in illegally obtaining passports on an emergency and priority basis in collusion with a passport office employee. An FIA official told APP on Wednesday that the operation was launched after receiving credible intelligence and obtaining approval from the competent authority to crack down on agents exploiting citizens seeking passport services. During the targeted raid, the prime suspect, Muhammad Muzammil, was arrested on the spot. Initial investigation revealed that he allegedly charged Rs20,000 per case from applicants, particularly those from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, by arranging passports on a priority basis using fake Islamabad residential addresses.

Senate committee reviews Pak PWD employee issues and delayed projects



ANI

ISLAMABAD: Senate Standing Committee on Housing and Works, chaired by Senator Nasir Mehmood, met at Parliament Lodges, to review issues relating to former Pakistan Public Works Department (Pak PWD) employees, delayed development projects, and other matters concerning the Ministry of Housing and Works. Reviewing the status of former Pak PWD employees adjusted in various ministries and departments, the Committee expressed serious concern over delays in the payment of salaries and arrears by the respective ministries and departments, despite their adjustment. Officials informed the Committee that a total of 20,024 former Pak PWD employees had been adjusted in various ministries and departments. Of these, salaries of 3,094 employees had been released, while cases of around 30 employees were still pending, including 14 employees in the Ministry of Planning, 9 employees in the Ministry of Religious Affairs, and the remaining in other departments. Chairman Senator Nasir Mehmood directed the officials not to mislead the Committee with repeated assurances and stressed that commitments made before the Committee must be honoured through practical implementation. Officials informed the Committee that employees were affected by the closure of department and that the majority had been adjusted in various ministries and departments. However, several employees are still awaiting payment of salaries and arrears. Officials from the Ministry

of Finance informed the Committee that following the revised funding mechanism introduced from 1 July 2025, letters had been issued to the relevant ministries and departments for clearance of outstanding salary arrears. However, employees informed the Committee that while they had been adjusted in different ministries, several departments had neither released their salaries nor cleared their outstanding dues. The Committee directed all concerned ministries and departments to ensure immediate payment of salaries and arrears to adjusted employees and remove unnecessary delays in processing their cases. During the meeting, Senator Naseema Ehsan highlighted the difficulties being faced by widows and families of deceased employees and urged the concerned authorities to resolve their cases on priority. The Committee unanimously recommended that all outstanding arrears of adjusted employees be cleared at the earliest. The Committee then reviewed the status of the Green Enclave-I Housing Project, expressing serious concern over prolonged delays, cost escalation, and the continued hardship faced by allottees. Officials of FGEHA informed the Committee that the project had suffered delays due to litigation, NAB inquiries, land-related disputes, bank guarantee issues, the impact of COVID-19 on construction costs, and subsequent contractual complications. They informed the Committee that work on the project had resumed and that several pending issues would be placed before the Authority's Board for final decisions.

Chairman Senator Nasir Mehmood questioned the prolonged continuation of contractual arrangements despite years of delay and observed that thousands of citizens, particularly retired government employees, had invested in the project in good faith and deserved timely delivery. The Committee directed that Contractor Dr. Hafeez Abbasi be summoned in the next meeting to explain the delays and stressed that all stakeholders must cooperate to ensure early completion of the project. The Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Works, informed the Committee that the Ministry had initiated reforms to resolve long-standing issues in housing projects and had placed restrictions on launching new schemes until ongoing projects are completed. The Committee also reviewed the replacement and repair of lifts at the Shaheed-e-Millat Secretariat. Members expressed dissatisfaction over the slow pace of work and directed the concerned authorities to complete the project within the committed timeframe. The Committee decided to conduct an on-site visit to monitor progress after a month. The Committee also reviewed the progress of the Model Jail project. Members were informed by the CDA Chairman that the first phase of the project had been approved and was nearing completion, while the proposal for Phase-II, which includes dedicated facilities for women, had already been submitted. Officials expressed the hope that the remaining work would be completed within the stipulated timeframe. During the discussion, the Committee expressed concern over delays in the implementation of the project. The Chairman directed the concerned authorities to expedite the pace of work and announced that the Committee would undertake a visit on 22 August to review the project's progress on-site.

Khalid Magsi calls for stronger regional scientific cooperation at ECOSF Board meeting

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Khalid Hussain Magsi on Wednesday underscored the need to strengthen regional scientific cooperation among the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) member states. Chairing the sixth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) here, the minister termed science, technology and innovation as essential pillars for sustainable development and economic prosperity. Welcoming the delegates attending in person and virtually, he said that it was an honour for Pakistan to host the meeting. He reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering support for the ECOSF as an effective regional platform for scien-

tific research, innovation, knowledge exchange and capacity building. The meeting was attended by Iran's Minister for Science, Research and Technology Hossein Simayi Saraf, Federal Secretary for Science and Technology Shahid Iqbal Baloch, ECO Secretary General Ambassador Asad Majeed Khan, ECOSF President Professor Syed Kamal Tayebi, Executive Director Ghulam Muhammad Memon, senior government officials and distinguished delegates from ECO member states. Addressing the participants, Magsi said the meeting reflected the shared commitment of ECO member countries to further strengthen regional scientific collaboration and promote science, technology and innovation as key drivers of sustainable development and economic growth.

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She Earns Money, But Does She Control It?
Pakistan’s Hidden Financial Inequality



Written By:**Humaira Noreen**
Published By: **ANI News Agency**

For decades, the conversation about women’s economic empowerment has focused on one question: are women earning?
The harder question, the one we ask far less often, is this: who controls the money women earn?
Consider a woman running a small home-based buasiness in Pakistan. Every morning she prepares her products, manages customers, tracks orders, and contributes to household income. Her earnings may cover school fees, medical bills, daily household costs. By almost any definition, she is economically active.
Yet when she wants to expand her work, invest her earnings, open a

simply because she generates income. But earning money and controlling money are not the same thing. Economic empowerment isn’t only about having an income – it’s about having the power to decide whether to save it, invest it, spend it, or risk it.
What the numbers actually show
Pakistan’s female labour force participation rate sits at roughly 24 per cent, among the lowest in South Asia and well below the global average of over 50 per cent. But participation is only half the picture. The 2024 Karandaaz Financial Inclusion Survey found that only 14 per cent of Pakistani women had access to a bank account, mobile wallet, or other financial service, against 56 per cent of men – and just 11 per cent had a registered mobile money account, against 48 per cent of men. Research from CGAP puts Pakistan’s gender gap in account ownership at roughly 30 percentage points, one of the widest in South Asia.
Even where access exists, control

often play a genuinely supportive role – many women study, work, or start businesses because of family encouragement. But that support is incomplete when a woman is allowed to earn and not trusted to decide.
Informal work, invisible contributions
The problem sharpens for women in informal work – home-based production, agriculture, domestic labour, family enterprises – without contracts, legal protection, or institutional recognition. Because this labour is so often tied into family networks, women can contribute the work without holding equal authority over what that work produces. It’s a paradox worth naming plainly: women contribute to the economy while remaining largely absent from decisions about it.
Recognising women’s work, then, isn’t only about counting how many women earn. It’s about recognising their right to influence how what they earn gets used.
Financial literacy has to mean more than budgeting
Financial literacy programmes tend to focus on practical skills: saving, opening accounts, using digital payments, tracking expenses. These are necessary skills, but they stop short of the real problem. Women also need the confidence to negotiate financial decisions inside their own households, to understand their financial rights, and to plan for the long term – not just manage the short term.
A financially literate woman isn’t only someone who knows how to save. She’s someone who understands that money is a source of choice, not just a resource to be managed on someone else’s terms.
Why this matters for Pakistan
This is not only a gender issue. It is a development issue. When women have real control over resources, families tend to invest more in education, health, and long-term planning. When women’s economic contribution stays invisible, or their decision-making power stays limited, the country loses real human and economic potential it cannot afford to lose.
The question Pakistan needs to ask is no longer just how many women are earning. It’s how many women are able to decide. Because economic empowerment doesn’t begin when a woman starts earning. It begins when she moves from being a contributor to being a decision-maker – and Pakistan’s next step in financial inclusion should be built around closing that gap, not just the one that gets a woman her first bank account.

The problem sharpens for women in informal work – home-based production, agriculture, domestic labour, family enterprises – without contracts, legal protection, or institutional recognition. Because this labour is so often tied into family networks, women can contribute the work without holding equal authority over what that work produces.

financial account, save independently, or make a major financial decision, she may still need someone else’s approval.
Her challenge is not the absence of work. It is the absence of control.
Naming what’s actually happening
In my own research into women’s digital financial inclusion in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with a validation visit to Sindh, I’ve come to call this pre-access exclusion: a woman can be formally enrolled in a financial system – issued an account, a wallet, a digital ID – and still be excluded from every meaningful decision about what happens to that money, before any bank, app, or algorithm ever comes into play. The exclusion isn’t in the technology. It happens earlier, inside the household, before access even becomes relevant.
This distinction sits at the centre of Pakistan’s hidden financial inequality. A woman may work outside the home, run a small enterprise, or earn through informal labour, and be described as financially independent

often doesn’t follow it. A 2021 analysis of Pakistan’s Demographic and Health Survey data found that barely half of married women had any real say over decisions involving their own earnings, healthcare spending, or household purchases. A bank account does not automatically create financial independence. A mobile wallet does not automatically create financial confidence. Access is a precondition for empowerment. It is not empowerment itself.
The invisible barriers inside households
Financial inequality is often invisible precisely because it lives inside ordinary household decisions, not in any single dramatic moment.
Who decides whether money gets saved? Who decides whether a woman’s income goes toward her business, her children’s education, or someone else’s priorities? Who decides whether she can take a financial risk at all?
These are not questions markets or banks can answer. They are questions about social relationships. Families

Iranian High-Level Delegation
Visits Islamabad: A Diplomatic Push
Amid US-Iran War



By **Rasheed Ahmad Chughtai**
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A Visit at a Time of Turmoil

On the evening of July 20, 2026, Iranian Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni arrived in Islamabad leading a high-level delegation. His team included the governor of Iran’s Sistan-Baluchestan province, the deputy interior minister, the deputy minister of urban development and transport, the head of the National Iranian Oil Company, a special representative of the agriculture ministry, and senior commanders of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).
Pakistan’s Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi received him at the airport, calling Momeni “brother” and expressing hope that the visit would bring “good news”. Momeni described Pakistan-Iran relations as “exceptional,” rooted in mutual trust and shared history.
The backdrop of this visit is a full-scale war already under way between the United States and Iran.
The US-Iran War: Numbers and Realities
On July 7, 2026, Iran attacked merchant ships in the Strait of Hormuz. The United States responded with air strikes, breaking a temporary ceasefire that had been brokered just weeks earlier. Since then, American warplanes have struck Iranian targets on multiple consecutive nights.
American casualties – Since the war began on February 28, 2026, 17 US service members have been killed. On July 17, two American soldiers died in Jordan from Iranian ballistic missiles and drone attacks. The next day, a third soldier was killed in northern Iraq while handling a downed Iranian drone. The Pentagon has confirmed that nearly 100 US personnel have been wounded since July 7.
Iranian casualties – Iran reports that the latest American air strikes have killed at least 50 people and wounded 517 others.
Scope of strikes – US targets have expanded from military installations to bridges and airports. Iran’s Revolutionary Guard has struck American targets in Bahrain and Kuwait in phases, and has fired missiles into Jordan. President Masoud Pezeshkian of Iran has stated that the country is in a “full-scale war”.
Despite the fighting, diplomatic channels have not been completely closed. Mediators have proposed a ten-day ceasefire to both sides. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has also said that Washington remains open to dialogue.
The Nuclear Threshold: How Close to a Bomb?
This is one of Pakistan’s deepest strategic concerns.
According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Iran now holds more than 400 kg of uranium enriched to 60 percent purity – enough, if further purified to weapons-grade level of 90 percent, to produce about ten nuclear bombs. Iran is the only non-nuclear-weapon state enriching uranium to this high level.
Even more worrying is the production speed. The IAEA reports that Iran has increased its monthly output of 60-percent enriched uranium from about 3 kilograms back up to 9 kilograms.
IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi has admitted that the agency has lost continuous oversight of Iran’s nuclear programme for nearly a year due to US and Israeli

strikes, creating significant blind spots.
For Pakistan, if Iran crosses the nuclear threshold, it would completely change the regional strategic landscape – potentially triggering pre-emptive strikes by the United States or Israel, with Pakistan on the front line if fighting spreads.
The Strait of Hormuz: The World’s Oil Lifeline
The Strait of Hormuz is only 33 kilometres wide at its narrowest point. About 17 to 18 million barrels of crude oil pass through it every day – roughly 20 percent of global oil consumption.
Oil flows through the strait dropped from normal levels to about 4 million barrels per day in May. Although they recovered somewhat in June, global crude oil inventories have been drawn down to very low levels. Renewed restrictions on maritime traffic through the waterway have sent crude oil prices to their highest levels in weeks.
For Pakistan, any disruption would send global oil prices soaring by 20 to 30 percent – and Pakistan is heavily dependent on energy imports.
The Lifeline of Eight Million Overseas Workers
In the 2025-2026 fiscal year, Pakistan received a record \$41.6 billion in remittances from its citizens working abroad, an increase of 8.6 percent over the previous year.
Nearly half of that money comes from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. In June 2026 alone, remittances from Saudi Arabia reached \$829.6 million, and from the UAE \$792.2 million.
If the conflict escalates to the point where more than 8 million Pakistani workers have to be evacuated, Pakistan’s economy would face collapse. That is one of the fundamental reasons why Islamabad is so eager to push for a ceasefire.
Border Security: A 959-Kilometre Fragile Frontier
Pakistan and Iran share a 959-kilometre border running through Balochistan and Sistan-Baluchestan. This border has long been a security headache. The militant group Jaish ul-Adl, which Iran designates as a terrorist organisation, has launched several attacks on Iranian targets from Pakistani soil. In July 2026, Iran struck Jaish ul-Adl positions inside Pakistan with missiles and drones. Pakistan then carried out retaliatory strikes against terrorist hideouts on the Iranian side.
A central item on Momeni’s agenda is strengthening border management cooperation. The two sides have already agreed to increase bilateral trade from the current \$3 billion to \$10 billion, and they plan to allow 2,000 trucks to cross the border every day.
The Delegation’s Activities and Meetings in Islamabad
Upon arrival, Momeni was received with full protocol at Islamabad International Airport. The visit unfolded with a series of high-level engagements:
· Meeting with Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi (July 20): Formal talks were held shortly after arrival, with both sides reaffirming their commitment to deepening cooperation on border management, counter-terrorism, and regional security.
· Pakistan Monument Visit (July 21): Momeni visited the Pakistan Monument, where he laid a floral wreath at the Martyrs’ Memorial and offered Fateha. A contingent of the Federal Constabulary presented a guard of honour. He toured the monument and viewed the panoramic landscape of Islamabad and the Margalla Hills from Shakarparian.
· Meeting with Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif (July 21): At the PM House, the Prime Minister expressed deep concern over the escalation in the Gulf region and reiterated Pakistan’s commitment to playing the role of an “honest and sincere mediator”. Momeni conveyed greetings from Iran’s leadership and expressed appreciation for Pakistan’s mediation efforts that led to the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding. Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and other senior officials were also present.
· Meeting with Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Asim Munir (July 21): At the General Headquarters in Rawalpindi, the two discussed matters of mutual interest, regional and bilateral security, and effective border management. Momeni appreciated Pakistan’s consistent efforts in easing regional tensions and serving as an “anchor for peace”.
· Police Parade and Awards (July 21): Momeni visited Police Lines Islamabad, where a ceremonial parade was held in his honour. He inspected the parade with Minister of State Talal Chaudhry and distributed awards to police personnel for outstanding performance.
Throughout the visit, Momeni was accompanied by Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry.
Latest Developments: Ceasefire Proposals and a Diplomatic Window
As of July 21, 2026, the following are the most recent facts:
· Joint Pakistan-Qatar Proposal: Pakistan and Qatar have jointly proposed that both sides return to their positions as of July 9 as a first step toward ending hostilities. The proposal includes a two-week ceasefire to pause retaliatory strikes and create room for negotiations. Under the plan, Iran would immediately reopen the Strait of Hormuz, while the US would end its blockade of Iranian ports and lift sanctions on Iranian oil sales.
· Iran’s Response: Iran has confirmed receiving the proposals and is reviewing them, with Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei stating that “defence and diplomacy do not have to be mutually exclusive”.
· US Position: The United States has indicated that it remains open to a “diplomatic solution”.
· Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding: Iran’s deputy foreign minister has announced that Tehran has suspended its commitments under the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding signed in June.
· Pakistan’s Mediation Role: As The New York Times has noted, Pakistan has established itself as a “guarantor of peace”. However, since the deal collapsed, Pakistani officials have struggled to make their calls for further dialogue heard.
Interior Minister Momeni’s visit to Islamabad is Pakistan’s latest effort to push for a diplomatic resolution amid a full-scale US-Iran war. As Pakistan’s Interior Minister Naqvi hopes, whether this visit brings “good news” matters not only for bilateral relations but for war and peace across the entire region.
Pakistan’s role is limited – it is neither a party to the conflict nor able to unilaterally decide the war’s course. But at this volatile moment, Pakistan provides a rare communication channel. With war clouds over the Strait of Hormuz, the nuclear threshold drawing nearer, and the fate of millions of overseas workers hanging in the balance, this visit carries far more weight than mere diplomatic protocol. The hope for peace remains faint, but the diplomatic window has not yet fully closed.





JALSA

JULY 25, 2026

LET’S GO

LET’S GO, GO TO MINAR-E-PAKISTAN



RCC
Bilawal House

SUMLINA HASSAN

FORMER SECRETARY TO
SHAHEED MOHTARMA BENAZIR BHUTTO

IN CHARGE OF OFFICE 10 UK,
RCC BILAWAL BHUTTO



Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani Bids Farewell to Azerbaijan’s Ambassador, Reaffirms Strong Pakistan–Azerbaijan Ties



BY: Hurish Shah:

ISLAMABAD--- Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani bade farewell to Azerbaijan’s Ambassador, H.E. Khazar Farhadov, at Parliament House and commended his significant contribution to strengthening the longstanding friendship and strategic partnership between Pakistan and Azerbaijan.

He appreciated the growing momentum in bilateral relations, high-level exchanges, and parliamentary cooperation, emphasizing the importance of expanding collaboration

through parliamentary friendship groups and committees.

The Chairman Senate reaffirmed Pakistan’s commitment to achieving the agreed US\$2 billion investment target and welcomed Azerbaijan’s zero import duty on Pakistani rice until 2027. He also stressed enhancing cooperation in energy, IT, agriculture, healthcare, artificial intelligence, innovation, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges through direct flights and the ASAN visa programme.

Reiterating Pakistan’s unwavering support for Azerbaijan’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, he thanked Azerbaijan for its consistent support on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

Ambassador Khazar Farhadov thanked Chairman Senate for the warm hospitality during his tenure and reaffirmed Azerbaijan’s commitment to further strengthening bilateral cooperation.

The meeting was attended by Senator Kazim Ali Shah, MNA Syed Raza Ali Gillani, Senator Manzoor Ahmed Kakar, Adviser to the Chairman Senate Misbah Khar, and OPF Board Chairman Syed Qamar Raza.

Pakistan’s Digital Future Depends on Quality Computing Education: HEC Chairman Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar



BY: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD--- Higher Education Commission (HEC) Chairman Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar said Pakistan’s digital future depends on quality computing education while addressing the National Workshop on Quality Computing Education and Future Skills at the HEC Secretariat.

He highlighted HEC’s key initiatives, including the Computing Curriculum 2025, integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Outcome-Based Education (OBE), and the

National Skills Competency Test (NSCT) to enhance graduates’ skills, industry readiness, and employability. HEC Member (Research, Development & Innovation) Prof. Dr. Habib Bokhari said the workshop aimed to promote awareness about future-ready skills, emerging technologies, and career opportunities while strengthening academia-industry collaboration and quality assurance.

Additional Secretary, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training Hassan Saqlain attended the event as chief guest. Representatives from the Ministry of IT & Telecommunication, PSEB, P@SHA, NCEAC, universities, industry, and students also participated.

The workshop concluded with an interactive panel discussion on aligning computing education with industry needs. Shields of appreciation were presented to distinguished contributors, while the top 17 achievers of the National Skills Competency Test (NSCT) 2026 received shields and certificates in recognition of their outstanding performance.

PEMRA Grants FM Radio Licence to ICCI in Historic Milestoneurdu

BY: Hurish Shah:

ISLAMABAD--- The Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) has awarded an FM Radio Licence to the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), allowing it to launch its own radio platform to promote entrepreneurship, investment, economic awareness, and ease of doing business.

The licence was presented by PEMRA Chairperson Ambreen Jan to ICCI President Sardar Tahir Mehmood at PEMRA Headquarters. She congratulated ICCI and said the FM Radio would serve as a credible platform for business information, investment promotion, and economic dialogue.

Sardar Tahir Mehmood called the licence a historic achievement and said the station would help serve entrepreneurs, SMEs, exporters, investors, and the wider business community. He said it would broadcast programmes on trade, industry, taxation, investment, technology,



innovation, skills development, and government policies.

ICCI Secretary General Ghulam Murtaza said the initiative would improve the timely dissemination of business information and strengthen links between entrepreneurs and key institutions.

Business leaders across Pakistan congratulated ICCI and expressed confidence that the new platform would amplify the voice of the business community and support economic growth.

Customs Enforcement Seizes Counterfeit Cigarettes Worth Over Rs400 Million in Anti-Smuggling Operation



BY: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD--- The Collectorate of Customs Enforcement, Islamabad, acting on intelligence-based information, successfully conducted an anti-smuggling operation in the Chakri and Balkasar areas.

The operation, carried out under the supervision of the senior leadership of Customs Enforcement, reflects the department’s continued commitment to combating smuggling and protecting the national economy.

During the raid, Customs Enforcement teams intercepted and seized 11 Mazda trucks loaded with counterfeit cigarettes. The estimated value of the confiscated cigarettes and the vehicles exceeds Rs400 million, dealing a major blow to organized smuggling networks operating in the region.

Ishaq Dar, Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Agree to Strengthen Trade, Defence and Bilateral Cooperation

BY: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD/MANILA -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar met Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath on the sidelines of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) 2026 in Manila.

The two foreign ministers reaffirmed the close and friendly relations between Pakistan and Sri Lanka and discussed ways to further enhance cooperation in trade, economic connectivity, defence, and people-to-people exchanges.

They welcomed the positive momentum in institutional engagement, growing economic and trade cooperation, and the successful visit of the Pakistan cricket team to Sri Lanka. Both sides also agreed on the importance of sustained high-level exchanges to further strengthen bilateral relations. Exchanging views on regional and international issues, Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath appreciated Pakistan’s constructive role in promoting dialogue and peace. Both sides expressed hope that recent regional tensions would be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy, contributing to lasting peace and stability in the region.



Six Police Officials Dismissed in Mandi Bahauddin Over Misconduct, Negligence

By FT Correspondent:

MANDI BAHAUDDIN-- District Police Officer (DPO) Kamran Amir Khan dismissed six police officers from service over negligence of duty, absenteeism, corruption, and misconduct with citizens during the weekly Orderly Room held at Zahid Mehmood Gondal Shaheed Police Lines.

Reviewing departmental cases against police personnel, the DPO awarded censure to two officers, ordered the forfeiture of one year’s service for two officials, and imposed fines on three others in accordance with departmental rules and on merit.

Speaking on the occasion, DPO Kamran Amir Khan said discipline and adherence to departmental rules would be ensured at all costs. He emphasized that negligence, corruption, misuse of authority, and violations of the police code of conduct would not be tolerated, adding that the accountability process is aimed at improving professionalism, discipline, and public service within the police force.



PPP Will Sweep July 27 Elections, Ensure Jobs and a Brighter Future for Kashmiri Youth, Say UK PPP Leaders

By ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD/ BIRMINGHAM --- Advisor to the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Senior Vice President of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Birmingham Branch UK, Chaudhry Shabbir Hussain Dadyalvi; Ex General Secretary of PPP Midlands UK, Chaudhry Abdul Majeed; Senior Vice President of PPP UK, Chaudhry Muhammad Manzoor; Member of the Federal Council of PPP UK, Chaudhry Muhammad Ameen; Former President of PPP Midlands UK, Chaudhry Fazal Hussain; and Former Advisor to the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and PPP UK leader, Mirza Gulzar Hussain, said in a joint statement that the Pakistan Peoples Party would secure a landslide victory in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir elections on July 27.

The leaders said that Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto opened new avenues of employment for the people, while Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto carried forward that legacy.

They added that, in line with the vision of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, providing dignified employment, better opportunities, and a brighter future for Kashmiri youth remains the party’s foremost priority. They urged the people of Azad Jammu and Kashmir to vote for the Arrow election symbol on July 27, saying that a PPP victory would strengthen the journey towards development, prosperity, public welfare, and quality employment opportunities for the youth.



Governor Sindh Syed Nehal Hashmi Meets Young Leaders Parliament Delegation, Calls Youth Pakistan’s Future Leaders



BY: ANI Correspondent:

KARACHI--- Governor Sindh Syed Muhammad Nehal Hashmi met a 25-member delegation of the Young Leaders Parliament at Governor House, led by President Young Leaders Parliament Owais Khursheed Qaim Khani.

During the meeting, discussions were held on youth empowerment, leadership development, quality education, skills training, employment opportunities, and the role of young people in national development.

Governor Sindh Syed Muhammad Nehal Hashmi urged youth to set ambitious goals and achieve their dreams through hard work, dedication, and perseverance. He said that Pakistan will complete 100 years of independence in 2047, and the responsibility of leading the country will rest with today’s youth.

He emphasized that young people should focus on education, character building, and serving society, adding that their success is directly linked with Pakistan’s progress.

The Governor described youth as Pakistan’s greatest asset and a guarantee of the country’s bright future. He assured the delegation of his full support in promoting young talent and enabling youth to play an effective role in national development, policymaking, and decision-making processes.

The meeting was also attended by Prime Minister’s Youth Programme Sindh Coordinator Dr. Fahad Shafiq, Prime Minister’s Coordinator Rana Ehsan Afzal, and other participants.



Islamabad:Chairman Pakistan Awami Quwat Khaqan Waheed Khawaja is addressing senior party workers.