

Daily **FINANCIAL TIMES**Email: dailyfinancialtimes2@gmail.com, Whatsapp: 00923060106475
Website: <https://dailyfinancialtime.com>

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Islamabad

Vol: 14 Issue: 351 Pages: 4 Price: 20 Thursday September 03 2026

The Newspaper of ANI Media Group

PM Shehbaz pledges to boost Pakistan-Kyrgyzstan trade to \$200 mln



ANI

BISHKEK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, said Pakistan and the Kyrgyz Republic have agreed to work toward raising bilateral trade from roughly \$16 million to \$200 million within the next two years, describing the current trade volume as far short of what the two countries' friendship warrants. The prime minister flanked by Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov addressed a joint press stakeout following a ceremony in which the two countries signed a series of agreements across trade, health, science, defence education and other sectors.

Speaking in the Kyrgyz capital

against the backdrop of the Tien Shan mountains, the prime minister thanked President Japarov and the Kyrgyz government and people for the hospitality extended to him and his delegation. He conveyed Pakistan's greetings to the people of Kyrgyzstan on their independence day, and congratulated the country on hosting the World Nomad Games, noting he had attended the opening ceremony two nights earlier. He said the two sides had agreed their economic partnership must move into a more practical, results-oriented phase, with a comprehensive plan to gradually raise bilateral trade, improve trade mechanisms, promote joint investment, strengthen industrial cooperation

and expand business-to-business contacts. Noting that current bilateral trade stands at only around \$16 million, the prime minister said this "is not a patch on our friendship, our brotherhood and our very strong relations." He went further than the day's memorandum of understanding on trade, proposing that it be converted into a full bilateral agreement, and said he hoped President Japarov would agree to do so following the ceremony. He called the \$200 million target within two years an achievable goal, and urged closer engagement between Pakistani and Kyrgyz business and financial institutions.

The prime minister also congratulated Kyrgyzstan on its election as

a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 2027-28 term and on its successful chairmanship of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in 2025-26, saying Pakistan had supported the Kyrgyz candidacy. He praised what he called Kyrgyzstan's remarkable economic progress and development under President Japarov's leadership, including expanded public services and support for vulnerable communities.

The prime minister said connectivity was central to the two countries' shared vision of linking South and Central Asia, welcoming the signing of a transit trade agreement to facilitate trade and improve logistics.

Makkah defence pact aims to 'end prospects of war in region': FO

ANI

Foreign Office (FO) spokesperson Tahir Andrabi on Wednesday described the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement between Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye as a framework for defence aimed at improving prospects for peace and regional stability, and ending the prospects of war in the region. Speaking at his last weekly press briefing before departing for Geneva as Pakistan's ambassador, Andrabi said the three countries had, during their first meeting in Istanbul, reaffirmed their resolve to work together for regional peace, stability and de-escalation, including through restraint and the peaceful resolution of crises.

"We agreed to further institutionalize cooperation under the Makkah Agreement, strengthening solidarity, collective deterrence and defence, and cooperative security for a just, inclusive, and lasting peace," the spokesperson said. Calling the agreement a framework for defence, he said it served the interests of the three countries as well as those of the region and beyond. "The agreement is tailored towards maintaining and improving the prospects for peace, prosperity, regional stability, and basically ending the prospects of war in the region," he said. Andrabi said Pakistan would continue to fulfil its obligations and responsibilities under the agreement in that spirit.

"The agreement is in our interest, and in the collective interest of the region and beyond," he added.

Responding to a question about the possibility of other countries joining the agreement, the spokesperson said he was not aware of any applications or new names. He said whenever a country wished to join the agreement with a commitment to collective obligations and common security interests, its case would be examined in close consultation with Pakistan's partners in Riyadh and Ankara.

He said Pakistan remained hopeful and committed to pursuing dialogue and diplomacy to help resolve the standoff between Iran and the United States.

Andrabi said, "Despite recent escalations, we remain hopeful, and we will continue to strive for dialogue and diplomacy." He said Pakistan remained engaged along-



side its brotherly countries in efforts to resolve the crisis, adding that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had met Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, where the two sides discussed the evolving regional situation.

"The prime minister reiterated Pakistan's sincere commitment to peace through restrained dialogue and diplomacy," Andrabi said.

Asked whether the Islamabad memorandum of understanding signed between the United States and Iran through Pakistan's mediation was now dead, Andrabi said, "There's no question of it being alive or dead or half-dead. This template for peace is there."

"Whenever parties agree to resume dialogue, this template of peace, or any similar framework copying this template, will be adopted," he said.

"We remain positive that the parties will eventually return to the dialogue table." Andrabi said the situation in the Gulf and the Middle East had also been discussed in Istanbul during interactions between our leadership and their counterparts on the sidelines of the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement meeting.

He said the visit of the Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) and Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Field Marshal Asim Munir to Iran last week formed part of Pakistan's diplomatic efforts to facilitate an end to the US-Iran conflict. The discussions particularly focused on renewed efforts to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, regional de-escalation, breaking the military stalemate and exploring a negotiated settlement to restore regional peace and stability, Andrabi said.

Karachi Traders Announce Sept 3 Strike Over Petroleum Levy

ANI

More than 50 traders' and market associations in Karachi on Tuesday announced that they would close their markets on September 3 in response to Jama'at-e-Islami (JI) Pakistan's call for a



countrywide strike against the petroleum levy. JI Pakistan Ameer Hafiz Naeemur Rehman thanked Karachi's business community for supporting the party's campaign against the petroleum levy and the planned nationwide strike. Addressing a traders' convention on the 17th day of the JI's sit-in outside the Governor House, Rehman criticised the government's economic policies, particularly the petroleum levy, and accused successive governments of burdening ordinary citizens while extending privileges to the ruling elite. He alleged that the government was pursuing flawed economic policies and questioned its

claim that the petroleum levy could not be abolished because of International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditions. "On the one hand, the government says it cannot abolish the levy because of the IMF, while on the other hand, the same regime was able to purchase lavish aircraft worth Rs11 billion," he said.

"Did the IMF guidelines evaporate when the PML-N regime was purchasing the aircraft for just one person in the middle of a global crisis?" he asked. The JI chief said abolishing the levy all at once was practical, arguing that the same amount could be generated through austerity measures by the government.

ADB Praises Pakistan's Economic Progress, Supports Private Sector Growth

ANI

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) praised Pakistan's progress in macroeconomic stabilisation and said it was ready to expand support for private-sector development, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and export-led growth, the Ministry of Finance said on Wednesday. According to a statement, ADB Vice President for South, Central and West Asia Yingming Yang congratulated Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and the government on Pakistan's "progress in macroeconomic stabilisation" and commended improvements in "fiscal management, the external account and overall economic stability". During a meeting with Yang, Aurangzeb said the government's focus was shifting "from macroeconomic stabilisation towards sustainable and inclusive growth", with greater emphasis on "investment, exports, employment generation and private-sector participation".

He welcomed ADB's "expanding engagement beyond sovereign financing", including support for "private-sector operations and public-private partnerships".

The meeting discussed access to finance for SMEs, which the minister said was an important part of Pakistan's "growth and export strategy". The finance



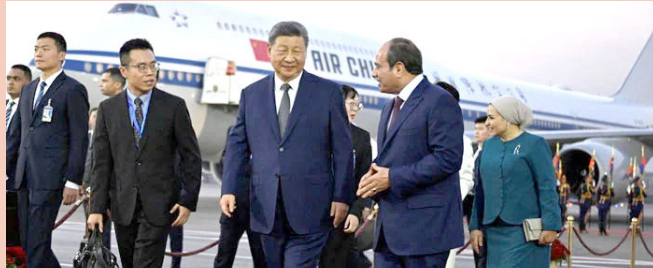
minister highlighted efforts to "expand financing for SMEs" and strengthen their capacity to contribute to "employment, investment and exports". The two sides also underscored the importance of integrating SMEs into "global value chains" and improving their competitiveness. Yang reaffirmed the ADB's "commitment to supporting Pakistan's development priorities" and said there was "strong alignment" between the bank's strategic priorities and the government's reform agenda. He expressed readiness to provide further support for "private-sector development, SME value chain financing" and other priority areas. The ADB vice president also commended positive developments in Pakistan's sovereign credit ratings, describing them as evidence of the country's "continued reform efforts and improved economic fundamentals". The ADB vice president, however, stressed the importance of maintaining "fiscal prudence" as Pakistan transitioned towards sustainable growth.

Xi urges new Middle East security framework during Egypt visit

ANI

Chinese President Xi Jinping called on Middle Eastern nations to oppose external interference and consider reshaping the region's security order during a visit to Egypt on Wednesday, as Beijing seeks to expand its influence amid the US-Israeli war against Iran.

Xi's first trip to the Middle East in four years comes as US partners in the region reassess their strategic relationships after months of conflict that have disrupted trade, shaken economies and raised questions about Washington's long-term role. Welcomed by President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi with a military ceremony in Cairo, Xi said countries in the region should be "masters of their own destiny" and explore a new regional



"security architecture", according to China's state news agency Xinhua.

Xi also said China was ready to work with regional countries to safeguard shipping routes, an issue that has taken on greater importance after conflict disrupted traffic through the Strait of Hormuz and Bab al-Mandeb. The leaders agreed to deepen secu-

rity cooperation and counterterrorism coordination, Xinhua said. The two sides also agreed to expand cooperation in data centers, semiconductors and critical metals supply chains and strengthen the use of each other's currencies in trade and investment, according to a joint statement.

For Egypt, stronger ties with China fit a broader effort to diversify international partnerships. In an article published ahead of the visit, Sisi said Egypt pursued a policy of "strategic balance" at a time of growing global rivalry.

For China, Egypt's regional influence and strategic location make it an important partner as Beijing seeks a broader economic role and tries to chip away at US influence in the region.

SHC rejects family plea seeking formation of JIT in Mir Raza murder case

ANI

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Wednesday rejected a plea seeking the formation of a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) in the Mir Raza murder case, dismissing the family's concerns over an alleged "botched probe". Raza's family, through lawyer Jibran Nasir, sought the formation of a JIT, alleging serious lapses in the original probe, including mishandling and destruction of evidence and failure to preserve CCTV footage. The Sindh government opposed the request, saying a judicial commission had already been formed to investigate the death. On Monday, the court reserved its verdict on a petition after the investigating officer (IO) probing the death of Raza told the SHC that investigators were clear that the case was one of murder and not suicide. According to the written order available to The Express Tribune, the court said that the investigating officer had assured it that the investigation would be completed in accordance with the law and if deemed necessary, assistance would also be sought from other investigative and law-enforcement agencies.

Kyrgyz FM underscores close ties with Pakistan, seeks expanded cooperation

ANI

DESK, Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Zheenbek Kulubaev underscored the importance Kyrgyzstan attaches to its close and friendly relations with Pakistan during a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar in Bishkek on Wednesday, expressing readiness to further expand bilateral cooperation in areas of mutual interest, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said. The



meeting took place ahead of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's meeting with Kyrgyz President Sadyr

Jhaparov and a day after the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State meeting concluded in the Kyrgyz capital.

According to the ministry's post on X, FM Dar congratulated FM Kulubaev on Kyrgyzstan's "successful leadership of the SCO" and its "effective hosting of the SCO Summit", as well as the inaugural ceremony of sixth World Nomad Games.



Islamabad: Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani meeting former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Akhund Forbes Launches Conclavity, Pakistan’s Legal AI Platform Grounded in Local Law



Report: ANI Correspondent:

KARACHI -- Leading corporate law firm Akhund Forbes has launched Conclavity, a legal intelligence platform designed specifically for Pakistani law and grounded in a maintained database of Pakistani statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations.

The platform was launched on Wednesday at the Mövenpick Hotel Karachi by Rabel Z. Akhund, Managing Partner of Akhund Forbes and Founder of Conclavity. The event was attended by members of the judiciary, senior legal professionals, in-house counsel, banking and industry representatives and corporate clients.

Sindh High Court Justice Yousuf

Ali Sayeed, who delivered the keynote address, highlighted both the potential and limitations of artificial intelligence in legal practice. He noted that AI can sometimes provide information that is not grounded in reality, while the approach adopted by Conclavity could help address this risk through verified legal citations.

Conclavity is designed to assist lawyers and businesses with legal research, drafting and contract review. Its responses are linked to the relevant provisions of Pakistani law, enabling users to verify the legal basis of the information rather than relying solely on AI-generated conclusions.

Rabel Akhund said the platform was developed in Pakistan by

Pakistani lawyers and engineers for Pakistani businesses. He stressed that Conclavity is intended to support rather than replace lawyers, reducing the burden of routine research and drafting while keeping professional judgment and accountability at the center of legal work.

Nasim Beg of the Arif Habib Group said AI would continue transforming professional life, while human judgment and interaction would remain particularly important in the legal sector.

Following the launch, Conclavity will initially be offered to selected early adopters, mainly corporate clients and in-house legal teams. Their feedback will help shape the platform's future development and expansion beyond legislation.

Punjab Police Welfare Board Approves Major Increase in Welfare Grants

By: ANI Correspondent,:

LAHORE -- A meeting of the Punjab Police Welfare Board, chaired by Inspector General of Police Punjab Abdul Karim at the Central Police Office Lahore, approved several major measures to improve welfare facilities for police employees and their families.

The wedding grant for daughters of police martyrs has been increased from Rs 500,000 to Rs 750,000, while the grant for daughters of retired police officers has been raised from Rs 100,000 to Rs 250,000.

The meeting also approved significant increases in educational scholarships. The scholarship for autistic children of police employees has been increased from Rs 30,000 to Rs 75,000, while the therapy and education fund



has been raised from Rs 400,000 to Rs 1.5 million.

Medical grants were also enhanced. The grant for police employees suffering from benign cancer has been increased to Rs 400,000, while the grant for malignant cancer has been raised to Rs 1 million. Grants for wives and children were also increased.

The board further approved an increase in financial assistance for minor surgeries, while specialized educational fees for eligible children pursuing medical, engineering, MBBS and business administration degrees were also approved. Senior Punjab Police officers attended the meeting, where various welfare proposals were reviewed and approved.

District Coordination Committee Reviews Public Complaints, Law Enforcement and Administrative Matters

BY: ANI City Reporter:

SARGODHA -- A meeting of the District Coordination Committee was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Khushab, Dr. Jahanzeb Hussain Laker. The meeting reviewed in detail complaints received through the CM Portal and online platforms, along with other administrative matters.

Addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Jahanzeb Hussain Laker said that a committee had been constituted to ensure the prompt resolution of public complaints received through the CM Portal, online platforms and various departments of the district administration. The committee would provide timely responses and make positive, merit-based decisions to ensure relief and justice for citizens.

The meeting also reviewed enforcement of traffic laws, crackdowns against illegal petrol pumps and smuggled petroleum products, illegal LPG decanting, inspection of major highways, action against non-custom-



paid vehicles, begging, encroachments, smuggling and electricity theft. Briefings were also given by the concerned departments on the registration of religious seminars, public issues and other administrative matters. The Deputy Commissioner directed the district administration and all relevant departments to work in a coordinated manner to ensure strict implementation of the law. He ordered indiscriminate action against illegal petrol pumps, illegal LPG decanting, smuggling, encroachments and other unlawful activities.

He said that protecting the lives and property of citizens and providing them with a clean, safe and well-organized environment were among the top priorities of the district administration. Effective measures should also be taken to prevent traffic violations on major highways and create awareness among citizens about compliance with traffic laws.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Social Services Ghazala Kanwal, heads of law-enforcement agencies and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

Mehkan Literary Award 2026 Ceremony Held in Gujranwala

By: ANI Special Reporter :

GUJRANWALA -- The second ceremony of the Mehkan Literary Award 2026, organized by the Mehkan Punjabi Literary Board, was held at The Learners Academy Gujranwala.

The ceremony was presided over by renowned poet Professor Dr. Azhar Iqbal Azhar, while Madam Naila Riaz was the chief guest. Dr. Hafeez Ahmed Bajwa and Dr. Aamir Iqbal Siddiqui attended as guests of honor.

Literary awards were presented to prominent writers for their outstanding books published in 2025, including Professor Sarwat Sohail, Nusrat Zaheer, Muhammad Ayub Sabir, Abdul Majeed Sabri, Shaheen Naqvi, Habibullah, Khalid Fateh Muhammad



and Ehsan Faisal Kanjahi.

President Mehkan Punjabi Literary Board Dr. Mushtaq Adil presented commemorative shields to distinguished guests. Khalid Fateh Muhammad received a special shield for being awarded the Imtiaz Medal, while renowned writer Professor Muhammad Riaz Shahid was honored with a Lifetime Achievement

Award for his literary services.

Speaking on the occasion, Professor Dr. Azhar Iqbal Azhar praised the board's efforts to promote Punjabi literature and culture and encourage emerging writers. Other guests also appreciated the board's literary contributions. The event was hosted by Professor Rana Arif Ali, while Shahid Siddiq Gul served as stage secretary.

Tharparkar Anti-Polio Campaign to Be Conducted from September 21 to 24

By: ANI Correspondent:

MITHI --- An anti-polio vaccination campaign will be conducted across Tharparkar from September 21 to 24, 2026. Deputy Commissioner Abdul Haleem Jagirani chaired a meeting of the District Polio Eradication Committee to review preparations for the campaign.

Officials said a target of 317,171 children under five has been set for vaccination. A total of 1,384 teams will participate, including 1,248 mobile teams, 72 fixed teams and 64 teams at entry and exit points.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned departments to ensure 100 percent coverage and make sure every child receives polio drops. For monitoring, 71 Union Council Monitoring Officers and 289



Area In-Charges have also been appointed.

Officials from the Health, PPHI,

Police, Education, Social Welfare and other departments attended the meeting.

NUTECH Holds Send-Off Ceremony for 71 Students Departing for China



Report: ANI :

ISLAMABAD -- The National University of Technology (NUTECH) held a send-off ceremony for 71 DAE students departing for China under the Sino-Pak (2+1) Dual Diploma Program in Emerging Technologies.

Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan attended as chief guest, while Chairman NAVTTC Engr. Qamar-

ul-Islam Raja was the guest of honour. Chinese Cultural Counsellor Cheng Peng was also present.

Speakers highlighted the importance of international technical education, market-oriented skills and Pakistan-China educational cooperation. Rana Mashhood congratulated the students and urged them to make the most of the opportunity while projecting a positive image of Pakistan abroad.

The ceremony concluded with certificates being awarded to high-performing students. Earlier, Rana Mashhood visited the NUTECH campus, laboratories, Skills Development Department, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Center and Office of Student Affairs, where he was briefed on academic, research, entrepreneurship and skills-development initiatives.

US Consul General Charles Goodman Leads Delegation to Meet Sindh Irrigation Minister in Hyderabad

BY: ANI Special

HYDERABAD -- A US delegation led by US Consul General Charles Goodman visited the residence of Sindh Irrigation, Planning and Development Minister Jam Khan Shoro in Hyderabad.

The delegation included Public Affairs Officer Sean McIntosh, Political Officer Haram Reynolds and Economic Specialist Aqsa Memon. Hyderabad Mayor Kashif Shoro, Special Assistant to the Sindh Chief Minister Abdul Jabbar Khan, MPA Dr. Sikandar Shoro, senior administrative and police officials, town chairmen and Pakistan Peoples Party leaders also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the partici-



pants discussed matters of mutual interest, the situation in Hyderabad and opportunities for cooperation in various sectors.

Jam Khan Shoro welcomed the US

delegation, while Consul General Charles Goodman thanked the minister for hosting the delegation and appreciated the opportunity to meet with local leadership.

Pakistan Navy’s Major Maritime Exercise SEASPARK-2026 Commences in Karachi

Report : ANI :

RAWALPINDI -- Pakistan Navy's major maritime exercise SEASPARK-2026 commenced in Karachi, with the Chief of the Naval Staff presiding over the opening brief attended by senior officers from Pakistan's Armed Forces.

The exercise is designed to rigorously test the Navy's combat readiness against conventional and emerging maritime threats, involving ships, submarines, aircraft, unmanned systems, Marines, Special Forces, and joint Army and Air Force elements.

Earlier, the Naval Chief visited Pakistan Navy Fleet units and reviewed ongoing operations. Addressing officers and personnel, he stressed the need for uncompromising readiness, enhanced tri-service



integration, adaptability and operational effectiveness in the evolving security environment. The exercise focuses on Multi-Domain Operations, integrating maritime, air, land, cyber

and space-enabled capabilities, along with operations in the information environment to gain an advantage in the information battlespace alongside kinetic operations at sea.

Daily

FINANCIAL TIMES

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Opinion

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Pakistan Takes the Helm A New Era of Global Respect



By Sheikh J. Hussain
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By:ANI News Agency

A defining moment unfolded recently at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit. Leaders of the world's most influential nations China and Russia were present. Turkey's leadership was there too. Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif sat among them not as a guest but as an equal. And India was there as well. The most significant announcement was yet to come. Pakistan has been entrusted with the chairmanship of the SCO and the next great summit will be held in Islamabad. This is far more than a diplomatic courtesy. It is clear and undeniable proof that Pakistan has earned profound global respect and is taking its rightful place on the world stage. The SCO is no ordinary forum. It brings together ten nations China, Russia, Pakistan, India, Iran, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan representing over half the world's population, vast territories, immense natural resources and significant military strength. What truly sets it apart is its guiding principle. All members decide collectively. No one dictates from afar. No one takes orders from across an ocean. For decades, major decisions affecting our region were made thousands of miles away, in capitals that had no real understanding of our realities. That era is fading. A new centre of global gravity is rising in Asia and Pakistan has been chosen to lead it. This is not a small thing. It means that from this day forward, the most important decisions for our part of the world will be made right here by us and for us.

It is worth recalling that not

long ago, powerful voices tried to paint Pakistan as isolated, marginalised and alone. They worked day and night to build a narrative that Pakistan had no friends, no influence and no future. They spoke as if the country could be pushed off the map and no one would notice. Today, that narrative lies in complete ruins. The country they tried to push to the sidelines now sits among the world's most powerful nations as an equal partner. The capital they said was unimportant will welcome heads of state from across the continent. Those who sought to isolate Pakistan are now watching it take the lead. This is not a defeat for anyone. It is a victory for truth and for the reality of Pakistan's growing global standing. It proves that no matter how hard others try to silence you, your true worth will eventually be recognised by the world.

This respect was earned through hard work, patience and unshakeable principle. It was not given as a gift. One of the clearest demonstrations of this came when Pakistan secured a landmark legal victory in the Indus Waters Treaty dispute at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. After years of complex legal proceedings, the court ruleddecisively in Pakistan's favour, upholding the treaty's sanctity and rejecting any unilateral attempt to alter or suspend it. This was not just a legal win. It was proof to the entire world that Pakistan knows how to stand up for its rights not through shouting or threats, but through preparation, through discipline and through faith in international law. When Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif addressed the SCO and stated clearly that water is the region's lifeline and must never be weaponised, he spoke not from anger but from proven strength.

He reminded the gathering that no nation can claim the right to cut off the flow of survival to another. His words carried weight because they were backed by jus-

tice and they were heard in every capital of the world.

Chairing the SCO carries great responsibility and great honour. Over the coming year, Pakistan will set the organisation's agenda across trade, security, energy and connectivity. Lahore has also been named SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital, highlighting Pakistan's centuries-old heritage and civilisational legacy. When leaders arrive in Islamabad, they will see a nation that has risen above its challenges. They will see hospitality, capability and quiet dignity. Pakistan will work to strengthen regional trade routes, promote energy cooperation and advance shared security proving that it leads with fairness, not dominance. It will show the world that a nation can be strong without being arrogant and respected without being aggressive.

Pakistan has faced immense challenges economic hardship, political uncertainty and external pressure. Yet it has never broken. It has continued forward, often quietly, but always with dignity. This moment of leadership is the reward for that resilience. It is earned through the sacrifices of its people, the courage of its institutions and the clarity of its foreign policy. Every Pakistani can hold their head a little higher today not out of pride alone but out of the knowledge that our country has proven its worth on the highest stage of all.

The world is changing. Old alliances are shifting. New partnerships are forming based on equality, not domination. In this new landscape, Pakistan is no longer on the outside looking in. It stands at the centre, helping shape the future. For every Pakistani, this is a moment of quiet pride not arrogance, but a deep sense of what can be achieved through unity and unwavering principle. The era of isolation is over. The era of leadership has begun. The world is watching and Pakistan is ready.

Dear Chairman PPP,Punjab Is Slipping Away



Written By:Rana Farooq
Published
By:ANI News Agency

The Pakistan Peoples Party's problem in Punjab is not simply its dwindling number of seats or disappointing electoral performance. The real crisis runs deeper: the party is losing its organisation, political presence and, most importantly, the confidence of its workers.

I do not write this as a political opponent. I write as someone who has spent 26 years as a worker of the Pakistan Peoples Party. I have followed the politics of Benazir Bhutto closely, witnessed the loyalty of PPP workers through difficult times, and remained associated with the party because I believed that the PPP was more than an electoral symbol. It represented a political tradition rooted in democracy, social justice and the rights of ordinary people.

That is precisely why this letter is not easy to write.

But the most dangerous moment for a political party is not when it is

sometimes awarded on the basis of personal loyalties or group preferences rather than political performance, public acceptance and organisational ability. When hard work no longer creates a path towards responsibility, a worker first becomes silent, then inactive, and eventually walks away.

The second challenge is the party's political ambiguity.

The PPP criticises the policies and governance of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, yet at the same time works with it politically. Political compromise is a legitimate part of democratic politics. But compromise also requires clarity.

A worker who has to present the PPP to voters as an alternative to the PML-N is left struggling to explain sudden shifts in political cooperation. Leadership can change strategy. The worker, however, remains in the same village, the same neighbourhood and the same constituency, facing the same voters.

The party therefore needs a clear political charter for Punjab.

Its position must be unmistakable on inflation, agriculture, employment, education, healthcare, local government, governance and its political relationship with the PML-N. Punjab's voters need to know not merely what the PPP opposes, but what it stands for.

This is no longer the time for statements alone. It is time for organisational reform.

Every district, tehsil and city organisation in Punjab should undergo a 90-day performance audit. Political activity, membership mobilisation, public outreach, worker engagement and constituency-level performance should be assessed. Inactive organisations should be restructured, while those demonstrating political performance should be given greater responsibility.

An independent Workers' Complaints and Accountability Cell should be established under the Chairman's office. Workers must be able to raise genuine concerns without fearing that their complaints will simply return to the same local structures against which they have complained.

The party should also hold a genuine Punjab Workers' Convention—not merely a gathering of office-bearers. Long-serving workers, young activists, silent workers and even former PPP workers should be invited.

Ask them one simple question: Why did you leave?

And this time, the leadership should listen rather than defend itself.



criticised. It is when its workers fall silent. In Punjab, that silence is becoming increasingly visible.

There was a time when saying, "I am a PPP worker," carried a political identity of its own. Today, the same statement is often met with a question: "You are still with the PPP?"

Many workers still respond: yes, because we continue to believe in Bilawal Bhutto.

But faith in leadership becomes political strength only when an organisation can translate that faith into political activity, public engagement and electoral relevance.

This is where Punjab's fundamental problem lies.

Workers increasingly complain about organisational inactivity, internal divisions, limited public engagement and the absence of meaningful access to leadership. Not every complaint may be justified, and factionalism and personal differences exist in every political organisation. But when such complaints become widespread and persistent, they become a political fact that leadership cannot afford to ignore.

There is also a growing perception that organisational positions are

employment, education, healthcare, local government, governance and its political relationship with the PML-N. Punjab's voters need to know not merely what the PPP opposes, but what it stands for.

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Middle East Conflicts and the Signs of the End Times



Written BY :
Syed Manzoor Ahmed Shah
Chairman
ittehade islami IOJK.
Published
By:ANI News Agency

The geopolitical landscape of the Middle East, particularly involving Israel, Iran, Syria, and Iraq, is often viewed through the lens of eschatological Ahadith (prophecies of the end times).What is happening in Middle east in terms of Militaray confrontations are occurring sequentially According to predictions of Prophet Muhammad Salahu Alihi wasalm(Peace be upon him). Abraham accord expansionist expeditions of Israel and Formation of Muslim Countries alliances Like Mecca Jion Defense Agreement are all the signes of an armagidon predicted by Prophet Muhammad Salalahu Alaihi wasalm already but Most of Muslims and infidel world does not pay head toGoing through the following detailed predictions of Allah's Apostel Muhaamd Salalalhu Alihi wasalm will make you Surprisingly awakened about the events occuring in Gulf and across the globe.

In Islamic tradition, the region of Al-Sham (which includes modern-day Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine/Israel) is the central stage for the final trials.

Here are more Ahadith that coincide with these specific regions and themes of conflict:

- The Black Banners from the East (Khorasan/Iran)

Modern scholars often link the region of Khorasan (historically covering parts of Iran, Afghanistan, and Central Asia) with the emergence of a supporting force for the

Mahdi.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
2. The Siege of Damascus and Al-Ghutah

Syria (Al-Sham) is described as the "stronghold" of Muslims during the great wars (Al-Malhama). Damascus, specifically the area of Ghutah, is mentioned as the base of operations.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
3. The 70,000 from Isfahan (Iran)

This Hadith specifically mentions Isfahan (a major city in modern Iran) in relation to the followers of the Dajjal (Antichrist).

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
4. The Peace Treaty and Treachery (The Romans)

Scholars often interpret "The Romans" (Ar-Rum) as Western powers. This Hadith describes a peace treaty followed by a massive betrayal and war in Northern Syria.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
5. The Three-Way Conflict for Power

This Hadith describes a struggle for leadership involving three "sons of Caliphs" (interpreted by some as regional leaders or dynasties) near the Kaaba, preceding the Mahdi's appearance.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
The correlation between Islamic eschatology and current events in the Middle East has been a subject of reflection for many. Here are five Sahih (authentic) or well-known Ahadith regarding the End Times (Fitna) that scholars and observers often discuss in the context of conflicts in the Gulf and the Levant.

- The Siege of Iraq and Syria

This Hadith is often cited when discussing economic sanctions and regional blockades in the modern era.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
2. The Building of Tall Structures

While not a "war" Hadith, it describes the rapid transformation of the Gulf (Bedouins of the desert) just before the major trials.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
3. The Gathering of Nations Against the Ummah

This describes a state of widespread conflict where many nations unite against Muslim territories, despite the large population of Muslims.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
4. Trials that Enter Every Arab Household

This Hadith speaks of "Fitna" (trials/turmoil) that is so widespread that no home remains untouched by its effects.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
5. Conflict over the Euphrates Gold

The Euphrates river runs through Iraq and Syria; its receding and the subsequent conflict are major signs.

Arabic:
Urdu Meaning:
The river of Eupherates has dried aince years and evacutaions that archeologists are Carrying out are surprisng Scientists and soon the predictions will materialize.The armagiddon is on the way and the signs of dooms day have emerged even clearer.For every Muslim, Chtistians and Jews it is time to return to realty, revelations of Allah and ressurect before it is too late to be forgiven.

Israel's latest foolish act of self-harm

YOSSI MEKELBERG

Israel, as a country and as a nation, has always suffered from a good measure of siege mentality. Being distrustful of the outside world is understandable considering the history of the Jewish people, but it has also become a useful political tool for cynics. For those on the right wing, it is ingrained in their ideology and state of mind. But it is equally a ploy to always portray Israel as a victim on whose behalf only they are willing and able to stand up to all those hateful foreigners who they claim wish for the destruction of the country.

The bizarre saga of two British MPs who were this month refused entry after flying to Israel is just another example of a self-inflicted PR wound inflicted by a government that is becoming increasingly paranoid and thrives on friction with the international community. The two rather anonymous first-term British Labour parliamentarians, Abtisam Mohammed and Yuan Yang, had been traveling to Israel and the West Bank as part of a parliamentary delegation. But immediately after their arrival, they were detained at the airport and forced to fly back to the UK the next day. What makes this story even more peculiar is that the two lawmakers were given clearance to enter the country before they set off, meaning their arrival was hardly a surprise to the Israeli government. Someone must have whispered in the ear of Israeli Interior Minister Moshe Arbel, between their clearance for entry and their detention at the airport, that two "troublemaker" British MPs were about to land in Israel, resulting in this hasty and reckless decision to prevent their entry. According to The Times of Israel, the Interior Ministry explained that it had refused Mohammed and Yang entry because, when questioned about the purpose of their visit, they had stated that it was "to document Israeli security forces and spread hateful rhetoric against Israel." It is hardly believable that they were so naive as to use these exact words to immigration officials. But even if this was what those who questioned them under-

stood, it would have been smarter of the Israeli authorities to weigh carefully the miniscule degree of harm that would result from allowing two relatively unknown lawmakers to conduct their fact-finding mission against the extremely negative publicity that was bound to be caused by refusing them entry.

The Israeli Embassy in London, which must have approved their visit or at least known about it, all of a sudden suffered a bout of amnesia and entered the fray, declaring that their country "will not allow the entry of individuals or entities that act against the state and its citizens (who are) actively involved in promoting sanctions against Israeli ministers," or boycotting the country.

These positions are certainly uncomfortable to Israel, but would it not have been better for the Israeli Foreign Ministry to invite critics of its policies, such as these two British MPs, to a briefing at the ministry and a meeting with experts and bestow on them the utmost "hasbara" to explain their actions, whether justified or not? Or is it the case that those in charge of defending Israel's policies on the Occupied Territories do not believe that their position is defensible?

Showing lawmakers a more friendly attitude would have at least saved Israel much of the negative publicity it received from most British politicians, with the exception of the Conservative Party and its leader Kemi Badenoch, which is hardly an endorsement that does anyone a favor. Upon their return, Mohammed and Yang, along with Cabinet ministers including Middle East Minister Hamish Falconer and more than 70 other parliamentarians, staged a joint photocall in Westminster Hall in a show of solidarity that was widely reported in the national and international media. To top this, Foreign Secretary David Lammy made a public statement describing Israel's act as "unacceptable, counterproductive and deeply concerning." Game, set and match for Israel's self-inflicted damage to its relations with the UK and beyond.However, this incident runs deeper than Israel's inability to toler-

ate any criticism, let alone acknowledge that there are any faults in its policies toward the Palestinians. Self-evidently, not every criticism of Israel is justified or reflects a genuine understanding of the complexities of this conflict and the wars it generates. There is usually too much of a binary approach and a tendency to unquestionably support either one side or the other, rather than offering constructive ideas and measures on how to bring it to an end.

Nevertheless, what does Israel expect after 58 years of oppressive occupation that has resulted in the illegal building of hundreds of settlements on occupied land in violation of international law, which has allowed settler terrorism and the general oppression of the Palestinians there, and more recently the mass killings and devastation in Gaza? The more Israel bars politicians, researchers, journalists and activists from visiting these places, the more it becomes obvious that the Israeli authorities have much to hide and that even they no longer believe they can justify their positions to anyone beyond their most ardent and least inquisitive supporters.

To make things worse for Israel's relations with its allies, last week it was the turn of a much higher-profile politician, French President Emmanuel Macron, to be on the receiving end of an obscene attack. It came from a certain self-exiled individual in Miami, who lives in luxurious conditions that nobody knows who pays for, while surrounded by Shin Bet bodyguards who we do know are funded by Israel's taxpayers. This individual is Yair Netanyahu — yes, the son of the much-discredited Israeli prime minister. Macron's apparently unforgivable sin was to say that France could recognize a Palestinian state in a matter of months. The instant reply to the French president on X by the younger Netanyahu, a response which reflects the depth of his intellectual prowess and good manners, was: "Screw You." He also suggested that France has no moral right to criticize Israel because it deprives lands such as New Caledonia, Polynesia and Corsica of independence.

— Arab News

Letters to the Editor

To
The Editor
Financial Times

Subject: Our Youth Are Scrolling Away Their Future

Dear Editor,

I would like to draw attention, through your respected newspaper, to a growing concern affecting Pakistan's youth: the excessive use of smartphones and social media, particularly short-form content such as Reels, TikTok videos, and YouTube Shorts.

Smartphones are designed to connect, educate, and empower us. However, many young people are now spending hours scrolling through content without realizing how much valuable time they are losing. The real question is not whether technology is useful, but whether we are using technology

responsibly — or allowing it to control our lives.

A few minutes of entertainment can quickly turn into hours of aimless scrolling. Students often use their phones while studying, eating, travelling, and even before going to sleep. This constant distraction reduces the time available for reading, physical activity, learning practical skills, and meaningful interaction with family and friends.

The issue has also attracted attention at the policy level. In July 2026, a resolution was proposed in the Punjab Assembly seeking restrictions on social media accounts for children under 16, citing concerns including digital addiction and exposure to harmful online content.

In my view, the solution is not to eliminate technology but to promote responsible digital habits. Parents, schools, and social media platforms should work together to

encourage healthy screen-time practices and digital awareness among young people.

Schools and universities should also encourage students to devote more time to reading, sports, creativity, practical skills, and productive activities. Our smartphones should be tools for building a better future, not distractions that consume our most valuable resource — time.

I urge "Financial Times" to highlight this important issue and encourage young Pakistanis to reflect on their digital habits and use technology in a way that contributes to their personal development and the progress of society.

Yours sincerely,
Kaleem Ullah
Concerned Student
Village Tarhana,
Abbottabad,
Pakhtunkhwa Khyber

Director Public Relations Gujranwala Manoor Hussain Returns After Performing Umrah

By: ANI Special Reporter:

GUJRANWALA --- Director Public Relations Gujranwala Division Manoor Hussain returned home after performing Umrah with his family and was warmly welcomed by relatives, friends, journalists, social personalities and officers and officials of the Public Relations Department.

Speaking on the occasion, Manoor Hussain expressed gratitude to Allah Almighty for granting him the opportunity to perform Umrah during Rabi-ul-Awwal and attend the blessed occasion of 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal, describing it as a memorable and fortunate moment of his life.

He said visiting the Haram Sharif and seeing Baitullah is a deeply spir-



itual experience that cannot be expressed in words. He prayed that Allah Almighty bless every Muslim with the opportunity to perform Umrah and Hajj.

IT expert Rana Muhammad Sohail Anjum, Muhammad Amin Butt, Rana Muhammad Afzal and Muhammad Zubair of Narowal congratulated Manoor Hussain and presented him with a bouquet.

Manoor Hussain thanked all those who came to welcome him and prayed for peace, prosperity and development in Pakistan, unity and harmony among the Muslim Ummah, and acceptance of every-one's legitimate prayers.

DPO Khushab Directs Police Station Record Management and Improved Public Service

BY: ANI City Reporter

SARGODHA -- District Police Officer (DPO) Khushab Dr. Ammara Shirazi held a meeting with the Moharrars (record-keeping officials) of police stations across the district. During the meeting, necessary instructions were issued regarding the timely completion of police station records, accurate entries, and effective record management.

DPO Khushab Dr. Ammara Shirazi directed the officials to ensure special arrangements for cleanliness and hygiene at all police stations. She also instructed police personnel to treat citizens



visiting police stations with courtesy, dignity, respect, and professionalism.

She emphasized that every possi-

ble measure must be taken to facilitate citizens in police-related matters and ensure the provision of better and efficient public services.

PPP's Raja Pervez Ashraf Visits Mandi Bahauddin, Calls for Political Stability

By: ANI Correspondent:

MANDI BAHAUDDIN: Former Prime Minister of Pakistan and PPP Central Punjab President Raja Pervez Ashraf visited Mandi Bahauddin and addressed a press conference alongside senior PPP leaders, including Gujranwala Division President Asif Bashir Bhagat and General Secretary Syed Hassan Murtaza.

Raja Pervez Ashraf also chaired a meeting of the Punjab PPP Provincial Executive Committee, where party affairs and political matters were discussed.

Addressing the media, he said new provinces could not be created through street or market-level decisions and that the constitutional procedure must be followed. He said every system had weaknesses, but that did not mean it had failed, citing Pakistan's nuclear development and other achievements.



On the PPP-PML-N alliance, Ashraf said the cooperation was aimed at Pakistan's development, prosperity and stability and had been decided by the PPP beyond narrow party politics.

He said the PPP continued to raise public issues despite being part of the government coalition and acknowl-

edged that inflation was a global challenge.

Commenting on increased load shedding, Raja Pervez Ashraf said he disagreed with the government's solar policy and maintained that improvements in the policy could help control load shedding.

Meeting Held in Attock to Review RTA Affairs, Improve Transport System



BY : ANI Correspondent:

ATTOCK -- Additional Deputy Commissioner (Municipal Services) Attock Aneel Saeed chaired a meeting at the Deputy Commissioner's Office to review Regional Transport Authority (RTA) affairs and discuss measures to improve the district's transport system.

The meeting reviewed issues

faced by transporters, enforcement of traffic laws, elimination of illegal transport, vehicle fitness and road safety. Causes of traffic accidents were also examined, with emphasis on precautionary measures to protect human lives.

Aneel Saeed said providing safe and quality transport facilities is a top priority of the district administration. He directed relevant depart-

ments to strengthen public awareness campaigns on traffic laws, helmet and seat-belt use, and road safety.

He also stressed that citizens must follow traffic laws and urged parents to prevent underage children from riding motorcycles. Departments were directed to adopt coordinated measures to reduce accidents and ensure public safety.

Murree City Traffic Police Issues 1,117 Learner Licenses in August

Report: ANI Correspondent:

MURREE: City Traffic Police Murree issued 1,117 learner driving licenses during August 2026 as part of its efforts to provide citizens with convenient and timely licensing services.

According to the monthly performance report, 964 motorcycle, 40 car and 14 Light Transport Vehicle (LTV) licenses were processed during the



month. The department also renewed 174 driving licenses and issued 10 Juvenile Driving Permits (JDPs).

The licensing services were provided under the supervision of Chief Traffic Officer Murree Munir Ahmed Hashmi. Traffic Police urged citizens to fulfill all legal requirements for obtaining licenses and strictly follow traffic laws to promote safe and responsible driving.

NA Speaker Ayaz Sadiq Holds Key Meetings During One-Day Quetta Visit



BY: ANI Correspondent:

QUETTA -- National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq held a series of important meetings during his one-day visit to Quetta, discussing the overall situation in Balochistan, parliamentary affairs, public issues and areas of mutual cooperation.

Upon arrival, the NA Speaker was received by Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, MNA Jamal Shah Kakar, provincial minis-

ters and members of the Balochistan Assembly.

Ayaz Sadiq met Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail and discussed the province's overall situation, parliamentary matters and various issues confronting Balochistan. The governor briefed him on the province's situation and public concerns.

The NA Speaker also met parliamentarians, political leaders, provincial lawmakers and tribal elders at Governor House and responded to their questions regarding parliamentary and political affairs.

During the visit, Ayaz Sadiq also expressed condolences to Balochistan Assembly Speaker Captain (retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai over the death of his young son, Sanaullah Achakzai, and prayed for the deceased and the bereaved family.

Later, he visited the residence of Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani to offer condolences over the death of her mother and prayed for the departed soul and patience for the bereaved family.

IPP AJK Meeting Raises Serious Concerns Over Recent Election Process



Report: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD --A meeting of ticket-holders and central leaders of the Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP) Azad Jammu and Kashmir, chaired by former AJK Prime Minister and IPP AJK President Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, expressed serious concerns over the recent electoral process, including the failure to hold elections on seven seats in Poonch and Sudhanoti, alleged rigging, misuse of government machinery and

federal interference.

The meeting expressed full confidence in IPP Chairman Abdul Aleem Khan and Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, stating that any attempt to undermine the public mandate or weaken the constitutional and democratic system of AJK would not be accepted.

Participants decided to conduct a comprehensive constitutional and legal review of the seven vacant seats, rushed government formation, election of the state president,

reserved seats and other disputed electoral matters. Legal experts will be consulted, and courts or relevant legal forums may be approached where necessary.

The meeting also stressed the need for free, fair, transparent and credible elections in AJK and refugee constituencies. Participants reaffirmed their commitment to protecting the political rights of the people, the constitutional status of AJK and its historic role as the base camp of the Kashmir freedom movement.

Commissioner Sargodha Division Distributes Awards Among Outstanding Student Athletes

BY: ANI City Reporter:

SARGODHA -- Commissioner Sargodha Division Hafiz Shaukat Ali distributed prizes, shields and certificates among students who demonstrated outstanding performance in various sports competitions at a ceremony organized by the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) Sargodha.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner said that sports play a vital role in the physical and mental development of students and help promote discipline, teamwork and a positive attitude.

He congratulated the successful students, their parents, teachers and the board administration, and urged



the youth to continue working hard with dedication and commitment to

bring greater honour and recognition to Sargodha Division.

SDPI, Mobilink Bank Urge Gender-Responsive Climate Finance

ANI

ISLAMABAD: A new study by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and Pakistan's leading digital microfinance Bank, Mobilink Bank has highlighted a growing financial vulnerability among women farmers in Pakistan, finding that many are turning to borrowing to manage the impact of climate shocks while still facing limited access to formal financial services. The findings point to an urgent need for more inclusive, climate-responsive financial solutions that can help women farmers protect livelihoods, recover faster and build greater resilience, said a press release. The study, "Designing Gender-Responsive Climate Finance: A Diagnostic Study and Product Framework for Women Farmers in Pakistan," draws on field research across eight districts of Punjab and Sindh and identifies a critical gap



between women's contribution to agriculture, their exposure to climate risks, and their access to formal financial services. The findings were unveiled at a ceremony in Islamabad that brought together government representatives, financial regulators, banks, development finance institutions and development partners to explore how evidence can be translated into practical financial solutions for women farmers. Adviser to the Finance Minister Adnan Pasha

attended the launch as the guest of honour and underscored the need to formally recognize women farmers as economic actors and drivers of Pakistan's agricultural economy. He said the government was actively considering policy recommendations emerging from the study and called on financial institutions to develop systems and products tailored to women's needs, particularly by addressing barriers related to access to finance, collateral and climate resilience.

Rain, thundershower expected in upper parts, Islamabad on Thursday

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Rain-wind/thundershower is expected in upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan, Murree, Galiyat and Kashmir. In Islamabad and adjoining areas, partly cloudy weather with rain-wind/thundershower is expected, while isolated heavy rainfall is likely during the night. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, rain-wind/thundershower is expected in Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Battagram, Buner, Nowshera, Peshawar, Swabi, Mardan, Abbottabad, Mansehra, Haripur, Malakand, Mohmand, Khyber, Bajaur, Kohat, Parachinar and adjoining areas, with isolated heavy rainfall likely during evening and night. In Punjab, hot and humid weather will prevail in most districts. However, rain-wind/thundershower is expected in Murree, Galiyat, Rawalpindi, Jhelum, Chakwal, Attock, Narowal, Sialkot, Lahore,

Rawalpindi and the Pothohar region. Landslides are also feared in hilly areas of upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan, Murree, Galiyat and Kashmir. In Islamabad and adjoining areas, partly cloudy weather with rain-wind/thundershower is expected, while isolated heavy rainfall is likely during the night. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, rain-wind/thundershower is expected in Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Battagram, Buner, Nowshera, Peshawar, Swabi, Mardan, Abbottabad, Mansehra, Haripur, Malakand, Mohmand, Khyber, Bajaur, Kohat, Parachinar and adjoining areas, with isolated heavy rainfall likely during evening and night. In Punjab, hot and humid weather will prevail in most districts. However, rain-wind/thundershower is expected in Murree, Galiyat, Rawalpindi, Jhelum, Chakwal, Attock, Narowal, Sialkot, Lahore,

Gujranwala, Gujrat and adjoining areas, with isolated heavy rainfall possible during the night.

Sindh is expected to remain hot and humid, while partly cloudy conditions with chances of drizzle are forecast in coastal areas, including Karachi. Balochistan will also remain hot and humid in most districts, with partly cloudy conditions expected in coastal areas. In Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, partly cloudy weather with rain-wind/thundershower is expected, while isolated heavy rainfall may occur in Kashmir. According to the PMD, rain-wind/thundershowers occurred in Islamabad, the Pothohar region, upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir during the past 24 hours, with heavy rainfall at isolated places. Hot and humid weather prevailed over southern parts of the country.