

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

Editor: JAVED SIDDIQ

Islamabad

Vol: 15 Issue: 01 Pages: 4 Price: 20 Saturday September 12 2026

The Newspaper of ANI Media Group

PM Shehbaz directs no area to face more than two hours of load-shedding



ANI

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif directed on Friday that electricity loadshedding in any area should not exceed two hours.

He chaired a review meeting on electricity load management in Islamabad and expressed displeasure over the rising power cuts in various parts of the country.

The meeting was informed that tensions in the Strait of Hormuz and difficulties in transmission have affected the supply of RLNG. This has reduced electricity generation and made load management necessary to maintain a balance between demand and supply.

The prime minister directed the

authorities to take immediate steps to address disruptions in RLNG transmission. He has ordered that all available resources be used effectively to ensure that no area faces load shedding for more than two hours.

PM Shehbaz has ordered the establishment of Consumer Grievance Redressal Committees at the Disco level to deal with public complaints about electricity transmission and other related issues. He directed that members of the public should also be represented on the committees and that they should become functional within one week.

The meeting was told that electricity consumers can register com-

plaints through helpline 118. After registering a complaint, consumers receive a token number and a time frame for resolution.

At present, electricity supply has not been affected by monsoon rains for any consumer across the country, except six consumers in Rajanpur district.

Separately, PM Shehbaz has stressed the importance of the agriculture sector to Pakistan's economic growth and stability.

He chaired a meeting in Islamabad to review the promotion of agriculture and agricultural exports. He directed commercial officers posted at Pakistan's missions abroad to play an effective role in improv-

ing access for Pakistani agricultural products in international markets.

The prime minister said value addition to agricultural products was essential for increasing exports. He also directed the authorities to introduce a mobile application for crop monitoring and conduct an effective media campaign to raise public awareness.

PM Shehbaz said effective coordination and partnership between the federal and provincial governments were necessary to increase per-acre agricultural production, introduce innovation in farming, develop the livestock sector and promote agricultural exports.

Opposition Consults on All-Parties Moot for New Provinces, Other Issues



ANI

The opposition said on Friday that they intended to hold consultations to call an all-parties conference to discuss several issues, including the creation of new provinces, law and order and the economy. PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan announced this while speaking to the media after a meeting of his party with Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F). "We decided that on all national issues, we will take political parties into confidence," he said, adding that "the current law and order situation, the economy, inflation, lawlessness, and the creation of new provinces' issue" called for an all-parties conference. Gohar termed the meeting a positive development and expressed hope that the consultations will continue.

According to a statement issued by the Tehreek-i-Tahaffuz Ayeen-i-Pakistan (TTAP), the PTI delegation met with the JUI-F chief at his residence, where the two sides held detailed discussions on the proposed all-parties conference and PTI's September 27 protest call.

The two sides also discussed "strengthening of the country's constitutional and democratic systems".

"The leaders also discussed the need for mutual consultation and a joint struggle among political parties to uphold the supremacy of the Constitution and the rule

of law, and to safeguard democratic principles in the country," the statement added.

Separately, Opposition Leader in the National Assembly Mehmood Khan Achakzai also posted on X that he and Senate Opposition Leader Raja Nasir held a meeting with PTI leaders, including Gohar, and it had been decided to hold an all-parties conference "at the earliest".

As per a statement, during the meeting, it was decided to hold a meeting on September 15 to review the progress on the all-parties conference. It was also decided to contact political parties "as soon as possible" to convene the conference.

The opposition leaders also held consultations on PTI's Sept 27 march.

On August 20, the opposition alliance TTAP and JUI-F had announced plans to form a "united opposition" after a meeting. At the time, the two sides discussed cooperation among opposition parties and future political strategy.

Speaking to the media at the time, the JUI-F chief said that holding an all-parties conference had also come under discussion.

The development also comes amid Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi's proposal for a dialogue among all political parties for reforms to the current governance system and the creation of new provinces and urgent administrative reforms. His remarks have sparked a debate across the country.

Consultations begin to schedule meeting between NA opposition leader and prime minister



ANI

Consultations have begun between the offices of the opposition leader and the prime minister to arrange a meeting following Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's letter to National Assembly Opposition Leader Mehmood Khan Achakzai regarding the appointment of a new chief election commissioner (CEC), Achakzai said in a statement.

A day ago, Dawn, citing an official source, reported that Prime Minister Shehbaz had decided to initiate a dialogue between the government and opposition by inviting Opposition Leader Achakzai for mandatory consultations on the appointment of a new CEC.

Earlier in August, Achakzai urged the prime minister in a letter to appoint a new CEC, along with two members representing Sindh and Balochistan. In a social media post on X on Friday, Achakzai said consultations had begun between the offices of the opposition leader and the prime minister following the latter's letter to schedule a meeting. In a statement, a Tehreek-i-Tahafuz Ayeen-i-Pakistan (TTAP) spokesperson said a meeting was held at

the chamber of Senate Opposition Leader Allama Raja Nasir Abbas. The meeting was chaired by Achakzai and attended by PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Khan, PTI Secretary General Barrister Salman Akram Raja, Asad Qaiser and others. "The meeting discussed the September 27 protest, with Achakzai and Abbas directing PTI to make full preparations for the protest," the spokesperson said. He further said that following the prime minister's letter, consultations had begun between the offices of the opposition leader and the prime minister to arrange a meeting. Last month, National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, during an NA session, also stressed the need for political harmony and stability and expressed the desire for the prime minister to initiate dialogue with the opposition by, as a first step, inviting the opposition leader for consultations on the appointment of a new CEC.

The five-year term of incumbent CEC Sikandar Sultan Raja expired on Jan 26, 2025. Raja has remained controversial since the ouster of the PTI government in April 2022 over what the opposition called his "support" for the PML-N-led government.

One of the main allegations levelled against Raja was that he had deprived PTI of its party symbol, the bat, in the 2024 elections. His critics alleged that the denial of the party symbol was aimed not only at disadvantaging PTI by confusing voters, but also at allowing PTI-backed "independents" to later join the ruling coalition without risking disqualification. They also claimed that the move was intended to deprive PTI of its share of reserved seats.

party also planned protests, shutdowns and demonstrations along major highways in cities, including Lahore, Karachi, Hyderabad and Quetta. The petition, filed by citizen Waqas Ahmed, argued that the PTI's planned September 27 protest and long march could affect his business in Islamabad.

His lawyer raised concerns over the possible use of government machinery and referred to the party's previous attempt to enter the capital in 2024.

Chief Justice Sardar Sarfraz Dogar, heading a larger bench comprising Justice Muhammad Azam Khan and Justice Muhammad Asif, heard the petition.

K-P Advocate General Shah Faisal requested that the PTI and the chief minister be made respondents in the case and be given an opportunity to respond.

'Dialogue, not bullet', key to peace in Balochistan, says senior security official

ANI

QUETTA: A senior security official on Friday called for a fresh political and strategic approach to Balochistan, arguing that the province's complex problems could not be resolved through the use of force alone and that the way forward lay in sustained dialogue with ordinary Baloch people.

"We need to win peace, not war, in Balochistan," the official told a group of journalists during a briefing held in Quetta, stressing that the problem would not be solved through bullets, but through dialogue. "The real issue is the narrative," he said, adding that while the challenges confronting Balochistan were serious, they were "not insurmountable".

The official said Pakistan needed a long-term strategic vision for the province, including what he described as a 10-year plan, rather



than relying on short-term responses to security crises. "There is no traitor in Balochistan. Ninety-nine point nine per cent are patriots, just like people in other parts of Pakistan," he added.

He acknowledged that people in the province had genuine grievances, although some concerns were being amplified or exploited for political purposes. "We respect them," he said, emphasising that the state should engage with common people rather than notables and sardars who only exploited the situation for their own benefits.

According to the official, authorities had held around 54,000 engagements with people in Balochistan last year and another 34,000 this year as part of efforts to reach out to local communities. "We dialogue with the masses, not with Sardars," he said, arguing that the focus should remain on ordinary citizens.

The official said those who had taken up arms against the state would continue to be dealt with through security operations, but maintained that a political solution had to accompany the kinetic response.

Petition against Sohail Afridi's election as CM scheduled for hearing

ANI

The Federal Constitutional Court has fixed September 14 for the hearing of a significant case challenging the election of Sohail Afridi as chief minister.

The petition was filed by estranged PTI member Sher Afzal Marwat, who has also sought the reinstatement of former chief minister Ali Amin Gandapur. Marwat has challenged Sohail Afridi's election as chief minister in the Federal Constitutional Court.

According to the petition, Afridi was nominated for the position by convicted PTI founder Imran Khan, a point Marwat has raised as part of his challenge. The Federal Constitutional Court has also scheduled appeals filed by prisoners for rehearing on September 14. Among the matters is a petition seeking prison facilities similar to those provided to Imran Khan.

The cases are therefore set to come before the court on the same date as the challenge to Sohail Afridi's election, making September 14 an important day on the court's upcoming schedule.

NJPMC commends district judiciary for disposal of over 1.46m time-bound cases

ANI

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan on Friday chaired the 62nd meeting of the National Judicial Policy Making Committee (NJPMC), which highly appreciated the exceptional performance of the district judiciary in disposing of 1,46,675 time-bound cases between September 1, 2025 and July 31, 2026. The meeting, held at the Supreme Court of Pakistan, was attended by the Chief Justices of the Lahore, Peshawar and Sindh High Courts and the Registrar of the Islamabad High Court. The Secretary Ministry of Law and Justice, Additional Secretary Ministry of IT and Telecom and Director General National Cyber Emergency Response Team also participated as special invitees.



The Committee reviewed progress on decisions taken at its 61st meeting and unanimously resolved to strengthen institutional capacity, accelerate access to justice and ensure efficient and effective justice delivery. The NJPMC con-

sidered progress on establishing a redressal mechanism for cases of enforced disappearances and directed the Ministry of Law and Justice to expedite finalization of the matter and submit a comprehensive report at its next meeting.

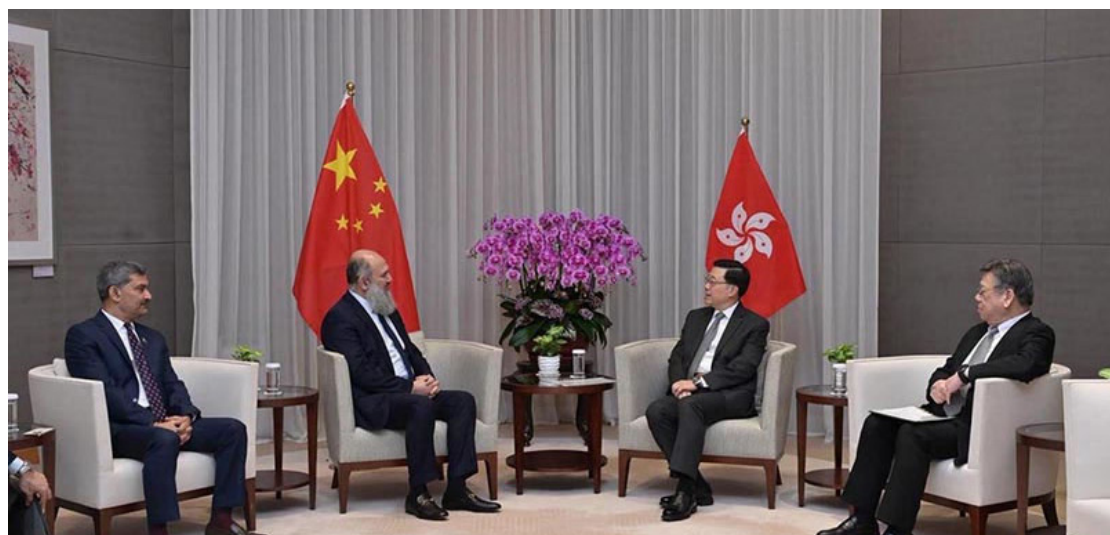
IHC seeks assurance against govt machinery use in PTI's Sept 27 march

ANI

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Friday sought affidavits from the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa chief secretary and inspector general of police stating that government machinery would not be used for the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) September 27 long march.

The court also directed the two officials to appear at the next hearing on Monday and sought rebuttal arguments from the parties. Officials from the other provinces were not required to appear at the next hearing.

The PTI last month announced a September 27 march in Islamabad to demand the release of Imran Khan, with caravans from across the country expected to converge on the federal capital. The



Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan in a high-profile meeting with Hong Kong Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu, joined by HKSAR Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Algernon Yau and Pakistan's Consul General in Hong Kong Riaz Ahmed Sheikh, discussing stronger trade, economic cooperation and business linkages between Pakistan and Hong Kong.

Kohsar University Murree Awards Need-Based Scholarships to 29 Students

By: ANI Correspondent

MURREE: Kohsar University Murree organized a need-based scholarship cheque distribution ceremony, awarding scholarships to 29 deserving students from various disciplines.

The initiative, led by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Rafia Mumtaz (Pride of Performance), aims to ensure that financial constraints do not become a barrier to higher education.

The Students Career Counselling and Placement Office coordinated the scholarship process under approved criteria and procedures to ensure transparent selection of deserving students.

Addressing the recipients, Prof. Dr. Rafia Mumtaz congratulated the students and encouraged them to pursue



academic excellence, stressing that talent, hard work and ambition should not be limited by financial circumstances.

The university reaffirmed its com-

mitment to promoting inclusive and accessible quality higher education and supporting talented students from financially constrained backgrounds.

PML-N Senior Leader and Former Federal Minister Mahmood Bashir Virk Passes Away

By: ANI Correspondent

GUJRANWALA -- Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) senior leader and Member of National Assembly Mahmood Bashir Virk passed away at the age of 89.



M a h m o o d Bashir Virk was elected MNA from NA-77 in the general elections and served as a member of the

National Assembly five times. He also served as Federal Minister for Law and Justice.

He was regarded as one of the senior leaders of the PML-N. His death was mourned by party workers and political circles.

Farewell Held for Malik Imtiaz Ahmad Mangat on Promotion as Divisional Director

BY: Raja Noor Ilahi Atif

SARGODHA --A dignified farewell ceremony was organized in honour of Malik Imtiaz Ahmad Mangat, Manager of Sanat Zaar Khushab, on his promotion as Divisional Director, Social Welfare and Bait-ul-Maal, Sahiwal.

Deputy Director Social Welfare and Bait-ul-Maal Khushab Shabana Ajmal, along with distinguished Social Welfare officers and other staff members, attended the ceremony.

It may be recalled that Malik Imtiaz Ahmad Mangat had previously also served as Deputy Director Social Welfare and Bait-ul-Maal Khushab. He performed his duties in District Khushab for a long period with exceptional dedication, hard work, sincerity and a strong sense of responsibility.

His pleasant personality, profes-



sional attitude and courteous behaviour towards fellow officers and staff members were highly appreciated and will always be remembered with respect.

His promotion has brought great joy to the people of District Khushab.

Members of public and social circles extended their heartfelt congratulations to Malik Imtiaz Ahmad Mangat on his in-service promotion and expressed their best wishes for his continued success in his new responsibilities.

Alhamra, PITB Sign Agreement to Introduce Cashless Digital Payment System

By: ANI Correspondent

LAHORE --- Lahore Arts Council Alhamra and Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) have signed an agreement to introduce a modern cashless digital payment system through PayZen at Alhamra.

The agreement was signed by Executive Director Lahore Arts Council Alhamra Muhammad Nawaz Gondal and PITB Director Development and Procurement Attaur Rehman.

Under the agreement, payments will be facilitated through mobile and internet banking, ATMs, bank counters and other digital channels. A central dashboard will enable real-time monitoring of transactions, enhancing transparency and financial oversight.

The agreement also covers implementation of Zenfinity to integrate Alhamra's billing and invoicing systems with PayZen, enabling digital



invoices and real-time synchronization of payment data.

Alhamra Executive Director Muhammad Nawaz Gondal said the initiative would reduce cash transactions, strengthen financial accountability and provide custom-

ers with secure and convenient payment options.

PITB will provide installation, maintenance, technical support, training and security, while Alhamra will facilitate the required infrastructure and support for implementation.

HEC, ACCA Explore Avenues of Collaboration



Report: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) visited the Higher Education Commission (HEC) Secretariat and met HEC Chairman Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar on Friday.

The ACCA delegation, led by Executive Director (Relationships)

Lucia Real Martin and CEO ACCA Pakistan Assad Hameed Khan, briefed the HEC Chairman on ACCA's operations and achievements in Pakistan and appreciated HEC's role in the higher education sector.

The two sides discussed potential collaboration in research and capacity building, as well as equivalence and accreditation of qualifications and

stronger linkages between academia and professional bodies.

Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar reaffirmed HEC's commitment to quality higher education and research. He stressed the importance of promoting AI and digital currency education, entrepreneurship and continuous professional development, including in the field of Chartered Accountancy.

Pakistan first country to issue a statement of its kind on environmental law: Speakers



ANI- ISLAMABAD: Speakers at the launch of "The Cambridge Handbook of Islam and Environmental Law" said, Pakistan is the first country in the world to issue a judgment of its kind on environmental law and the inclusion of a Lahore High Court (LHC) judgment in a handbook of Cambridge University Press is a true recognition of Pakistan's judiciary.

The book launch was organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here on Friday.

In his keynote address, Justice Jawad Hassan of the Lahore High Court said Article 9-A had been added to the Constitution through the 26th Amendment to provide for a sustainable environment, in line with the teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Justice Jawad said Islamic epistemology, rooted in Quranic verses and hadith, held that resources had been bestowed upon mankind in due proportion that should not be disturbed. He said the world had long looked to instruments such as the United Nations (UN) Declaration of Human Rights,

while the last sermon of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) similarly enshrined such rights.

Every human being is merely a trustee of God on earth, obligated to preserve resources likening it to safeguarding "a glass of water" for future generations, he said, adding that it is a principal that courts had already applied in disputes concerning water extraction. He further said the subject held particular importance for COP31, given Pakistan's close ties with Türkiye and Azerbaijan, and voiced hope that the concept would be developed further as a global discourse.

In his welcome remarks, SDPI Executive Director Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri said the book is significant as it cited a number of judgments from Pakistani courts, with one chapter dedicated to the judgment authored by Justice Jawad Hassan. He said the launch of the book ahead of COP31 was pertinent, as the conference would take up discussions on mitigation, adaptation and related themes.

Dr Suleri said all religions spoke of

the conservation of nature, and Islam and Shariah jurisprudence in particular shed light on environmental protection. He announced that SDPI would host a special session on Islam and environmental law at COP31. The handbook, edited by Prof Nadia B. Ahmad of Barry University School of Law, Prof Saba Kareemi of Pakistan College of Law, Erum K. Sattar of Tufts University and Oluwakemi A. Ayanleye of Olabisi Onabanjo University, Nigeria, comprises 27 chapters authored by 24 scholars from 16 countries. Its 16th chapter examines the 2019 LHC judgment in Sheikh Asim Farooq v. Federation of Pakistan, authored by Justice Jawad Hassan, which had directed the enforcement of forest-protection laws in the country.

Sibah Farooq, the chairperson of Islamabad High Court Bar Committees on Women Empowerment and Environmental Rights and Animal Laws, felicitating SDPI for being the first to launch the book, said it is a proud moment for Pakistan that Justice Jawad's judgment had been referenced in Chapter 16. She noted that three of the book's editors were of Pakistani origin, and said the subject required greater public debate.

She said Pakistan had produced a string of judgments addressing Islam and environmental law, citing a judgment by Justice Jawad on curbing food wastage at restaurants and another aimed at aligning public lifestyles with nature, in line with Islamic teachings on environmental protection.

Hamza visits PIMS, condoles with bereaved families

ANI- ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President and former Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shahbaz on Friday visited the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) and expressed condolences with families affected by the tragic fire incident at the hospital.

Talking to the media, Hamza Shahbaz said he had come to offer condolences to the families who lost their children in the incident.

He said no words or sympathy could lessen the grief of parents who had lost their children.

"The grief of the bereaved families cannot be alleviated. This is a deep wound that will take time to heal," he said.

Hamza Shahbaz said the entire nation was saddened by the tragedy and stood with the affected families in their hour of grief. "I



have come to share their sorrow, offer condolences and pray for the departed souls," he said. He prayed that Allah Almighty grant the deceased children a high place in Jannat-ul-Firdous and give

their families patience and strength to bear the loss.

Hamza Shahbaz stressed that every possible effort should be made to ensure that such tragic incidents did not recur in the future.

Power Division rejects news report on new IPP agreements

ANI- ISLAMABAD: The Power Division on Friday strongly rejected a report published in daily Jang titled "Claims of getting rid of IPPs on one hand, new 30 to 40-year agreements on the other," terming it contrary to facts.

According to the spokesperson, the Government of Pakistan has completely ended the practice of entering into new agreements with IPPs or undertaking government power purchase commitments following the approval of the Integrated Generation Capacity Expansion Plan (IGCEP) 2025-35 and the launch of a free electricity market in the country. The spokesperson clarified that the Jamshoro Coal Power Plant was not an IPP. The plant was established by the Government of Pakistan with funding from the Asian

Development Bank, while its construction commenced in 2018 and commercial operations were completed in May 2025. He said that portraying the commercial operation date of the Jamshoro Power Plant as an IPP agreement or a new power purchase contract was factually incorrect and created unnecessary sensationalism.

He said the same was the case with the K-2 and K-3 nuclear power plants, which were also government-owned power plants and whose construction had started several years ago.

The commercial operation dates of K-2 and K-3 had also been portrayed in the report as new agreements, which was completely incorrect, the spokesperson added.

Abbasi pays tribute to Quaid-i-Azam on 78th death anniversary

ANI- ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Railways, Muhammad Hanif Abbasi has paid rich tribute to Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah on the occasion of his 78th death anniversary, acknowledging his visionary leadership, principled politics and tireless struggle for the creation of Pakistan.

In his message, the minister said Quaid-i-Azam's far-sighted leadership, adherence to principles and relentless efforts transformed the dream of a separate homeland for the Muslims of the subcontinent into reality.

He said Quaid-i-Azam envisioned Pakistan as a strong, sovereign and prosperous state, adding that it was the collective responsibility of the nation to translate his vision into reality. Hanif Abbasi said the present government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, was taking practical steps to steer Pakistan towards development, economic stability and prosperity in line with the vision of Quaid-i-Azam. He said the journey towards Pakistan's development and prosperity must continue, while improvement and reforms in every sector were essential for realizing the Quaid's dream. The minister said reforms in Pakistan Railways, adoption of modern technology, digitalization and improvement of infrastructure were important components of the government's development vision.

He said transforming Pakistan Railways into a modern, safe, profitable and people-friendly institution would be an important step towards realizing Quaid-i-Azam's dream of a strong and developed Pakistan.

Hanif Abbasi said that Pakistan Railways was rapidly moving forward to play a more effective role in strengthening the national economy, promoting trade and improving connectivity among the people.

The minister emphasized that making the Quaid-i-Azam's principles of Unity, Faith and Discipline the guiding principles was a national responsibility to build a developed, prosperous and strong Pakistan.

He reaffirmed that the government and the entire nation were committed to building a strong, sovereign and prosperous Pakistan in the light of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's vision.

Pakistan reports fourth polio case of 2026 in KP

ANI- ISLAMABAD: The National Emergency Operations Center for Polio Eradication (NEOC) on Friday confirmed a new polio case from Bannu District, in southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, bringing the total number of cases reported in Pakistan this year to four. The government-led Polio Eradication Initiative in Pakistan urged all parents and caregivers to ensure their children are vaccinated during the upcoming door-to-door campaign from 21 to 27 September—and in every subsequent campaign—to protect them from lifelong disability. Consistent vaccination is essential to protect every family and seize the historic opportunity to eradicate polio for good. Three of this year's four cases are from Bannu Division, where security-related access constraints have resulted in children missing critical vaccination, allowing wild poliovirus to continue circulating. Due to the safe and effective polio vaccine, Pakistan has reduced polio cases by 99.8 percent—from an estimated 20,000 cases in the early 1990s to 31 in 2025. So far in 2026, four cases have been reported, mostly concentrated in southern KP. While overall poliovirus transmission in the country has declined since 2025, transmission remains persistent in southern KP. The affected child is from Nurur Union Council in Tehsil Miryan, where vaccination teams have not been able to reach children consistently since 2025 due to insecurity. This new case underscores the urgent need to maintain strong surveillance and vaccination efforts nationwide, as no child is safe from polio until every child is protected. Polio is a highly contagious and incurable disease that can cause lifelong paralysis and, in some cases, death. It can, however, be prevented through safe and effective polio vaccines, which have been used safely in 195 countries, including all Muslim-majority countries. In 2026, Pakistan has already implemented three large-scale polio campaigns, protecting more than 45 million children multiple times, alongside smaller targeted oral and injectable vaccination campaigns in high-risk areas. The next national campaign is scheduled from 21 to 27 September and aims to protect nearly 31 million children, including in South KP. Polio eradication is a collective responsibility. Pakistan's dedicated frontline workers continue to bring vaccines to children at their doorsteps, while parents and caregivers play a crucial role by ensuring their children receive all recommended doses, including routine immunizations.

Daily

FINANCIAL TIMES

Group Editor: Dr. Waheed Mehmood Khan, Editor: Javed Siddiq

Executive Editor: Naseem Hassan Awan, Joint Editor: Hurish Shah

Disclaimer: All articles, columns, and opinions published in Financial Times are solely the views of their respective authors. The publication does not necessarily endorse or agree with the opinions, views, or positions expressed therein.

Opinion

3

When Education Becomes an Expensive Cycle of Failure: How FBISE’s Rushed Second Annual Examination, Crushing Fees and Reported Mass Failure of Students Expose the Ministry’s Indifference to Their Future



By: Hurish Shah
Published By: ANI News Agency

Education is supposed to provide hope, opportunity and intellectual development. It must never become a mechanism through which students are repeatedly failed, hurried into another examination and burdened with unaffordable fees. Unfortunately, the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education’s schedule for the HSSC Second Annual Examination 2026 presents a deeply disturbing picture of administrative insensitivity, financial exploitation and disregard for students’ academic futures.

The Federal Ministry of Education and Professional Training deserves condemnation in the strongest possible terms for allowing such an unreasonable policy to be imposed upon students, particularly the children of overseas Pakistanis. A ministry entrusted with protecting educational interests cannot remain a silent spectator while its subordinate examination system places students under severe academic, psychological and financial pressure.

The FBISE fee notification was issued on 9 September 2026, while the deadline for submitting admission forms with the normal fee was fixed as 21 September. In practical terms, students were given only 12 days to understand their results, decide whether to reappear or seek improvement, arrange the necessary documents and deposit a substantial examination fee. Those unable to meet this narrow deadline would immediately be pushed into the double-fee and triple-fee categories.

What educational justification exists for such an unnecessarily compressed schedule? Students who have failed one or more subjects require time to identify their weaknesses, consult their teachers, revise the syllabus and prepare themselves mentally for another attempt. Instead of providing this opportunity, the Board has placed them on an administrative conveyor belt consisting of the result, fee, form and another examination, all within a remarkably short period.

The examination is scheduled to commence on 28 October 2026. This gives affected students little meaningful preparation time. The situation is even more alarming because these candidates must simultaneously continue their second-year studies. They are effectively being forced to choose between preparing for their failed first-year subjects and attending to their ongoing second-year syllabus.

Previously, a more practical

arrangement existed under which students having a compartment in first year, or wishing to improve their marks, could appear in those subjects alongside their second-year annual examinations. That system enabled students to continue their regular classes without unnecessary disruption and provided them with sufficient preparation time. The present arrangement abandons that academic balance.

Under the new schedule, students may lose a considerable portion of their second-year academic session while preparing for first-year papers. After appearing in the second annual examination, they will have to return to a second-year syllabus from which they have already become disconnected. When the second-year annual examination arrives, many may again be inadequately prepared. The result could be another failure, another admission form and another heavy fee. This is not educational reform. It is the creation of a cruel cycle of failure, repeated examinations and repeated payments.

The financial burden is equally indefensible. At the prevailing exchange rate, the examination fee of US\$130 amounts to approximately Rs. 36,100 per part. A non-registered candidate must pay approximately Rs. 63,800, including nearly Rs. 27,700 as a registration fee. These amounts may increase further when bank conversion rates and transaction charges are included.

Even more objectionable is the condition that a student appearing in only one failed or improvement paper must pay the full fee for the entire relevant part. How can it be fair to charge a candidate the same amount for one paper as another candidate appearing in several subjects? A just examination system should determine fees according to the number and nature of papers. The present policy has no reasonable connection with the actual examination services being provided to individual students.

Reports that nearly 90% of certain overseas students were declared unsuccessful make the matter far more serious. If this reported failure rate is accurate, it cannot simply be dismissed as poor student performance. Such an extraordinary outcome raises legitimate questions about the difficulty and relevance of the papers, differences in curricula, examination administration, marking standards and the preparedness of institutions affiliated with FBISE abroad.

A failure rate of this magnitude is not merely a student problem. It is evidence of a possible institutional failure. When the overwhelming majority of candidates cannot succeed, responsible authorities must examine the system before blaming the students. The Federal Education Ministry

and FBISE must disclose the results according to institutions and subjects, explain the reasons for the reported mass failure and order an independent investigation into paper setting, assessment and marking procedures.

The Ministry’s silence is unacceptable. It cannot celebrate educational development in official speeches while ignoring policies that cause distress to Pakistani families abroad. Overseas Pakistanis contribute significantly to Pakistan’s economy and national development. Their children deserve fair treatment, reasonable examination schedules and affordable fees. They do not deserve an arrangement that appears more interested in collecting revenue than correcting academic deficiencies.

When students are failed in unusually large numbers and then immediately charged substantial amounts for another examination, the process naturally creates the impression that education has been turned into a commercial enterprise. Whether or not revenue generation was the intention, this is the perception produced by the policy. The Ministry and the Board are responsible for removing that perception through transparency, fairness and urgent corrective action.

Affected students should not be required to bear the financial consequences of possible systemic weaknesses. If the reported mass failure resulted from deficiencies in paper setting, assessment or institutional coordination, the candidates must be allowed to reappear free of cost. At the very least, fees should be charged according to the number of subjects, and students appearing in one or two papers should not be forced to pay the full fee for an entire part.

The examination schedule should also be extended substantially. Alternatively, first-year supplementary and improvement papers should once again be conducted alongside the second-year annual examinations. This would protect students’ regular studies and give them a realistic opportunity to prepare.

The Federal Minister for Education must personally take notice of this matter. The Ministry should order an independent inquiry, extend the schedule, review the fee structure, abolish disproportionate double-fee and triple-fee penalties and provide relief to the affected overseas students.

Education cannot be managed like a fee collection counter. Every unreasonable deadline, unexplained mass failure and excessive charge affects a student’s confidence, family and future. If the Ministry continues to remain indifferent, it will not merely be guilty of administrative negligence. It will be responsible for turning an educational setback into prolonged academic and financial punishment.

Sindh’s Real Challenge: Beyond Political Identity to Good Governance



By: Ms Sumblina Hassan
Former Secretary to Shaheed Morthrama Benazir Bhutto
Former Consultant Foreign Office Islamabad
In Charge of Office 10 UK RCC Bilawal Bhutto House
Published By: ANI News Agency

Our Chief Minister of Sindh Murad Ali Shah stated categorically during an adjournment motion on the unity of the Province of Sindh, that we will never compromise on Sindh’s territorial integrity. The Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi says governance needs a “Reset”. His argument is that by creating new provinces and administrative units it will help restructure Sindh and make every household prosperous.

Our former Leader Shaheed Morthrama Benazir Bhutto’s stance on Sindh’s unity proclaimed that we must preserve Sindh’s territorial integrity, and she opposed any form of bifurcation which led to the dismantling of its true identity. She was prepared to negotiate with MQM specifically to avoid division but she attempted to bridge the gap between urban and rural communities. By doing so she did not yield to the demands for a separate administrative or ethnic province. Like her father the anti separatist tradition would be anchored in unifying Sindh, and standing against carving the Province.

Our Party rejects any moves that divide Sindh province as Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, and Asif Ali Zardari backs territorial integrity. It was maintained that any proposal to create administrative units should be pursued through political consensus.

Now the question arises “what and the how”. Where did this notion come from? Who and why did they bring this proposal. Why was it addressed by an Interior Minister who is debating it in the UK; together with our Leaders? Why didn’t these politicians bring it into Pakistan’s Parliamentary domain through the order and system of our government and in accordance to our Constitution. A big question as this should have had all parties present with all Leaders including our Prime Minister. Surely we must follow Parliamentary procedures and due process?

Sindh matters as it remains the PPP’s strongest political base and it is considered as the key source of its electoral support and strength. If these changes are instigated it could weaken the party’s economic and

political influence and it’s argued it could impact in the long term on its parliamentary strength.

Our party’s sources have raised questions over a boarder political motive. The belief that reorganising provincial boundaries that are supported by Pakistan’s military establishment could weaken civilian political authority and this could inevitably set a precedent for greater military influence in political affairs. We must also remember the threat of India when it openly threatened that it will divide Pakistan within. One must also remember that the more a province is segregated it will face more laws, regulations and constraints imposed by Parliament.

Critics argue that by dividing Sindh into smaller administrative provinces would lead to more balanced development, better financing and improved local services. They argue that the current system is overly centralised and fundamentally unfair.

The Urban districts complain of disparity as Karachi generates the vast majority of the Province’s revenue yet these funds are disproportionately funnelled into rural projects, rather than utilised into urban infrastructure. However, rural residents complain that despite funding there is rural neglect and that development remains extremely poor.

What are Sindh’s financial sources and how exactly does it work? The federal government collects majority of the nation’s taxes i.e income tax. This money then goes into the Federal Divisible Pool. Then more than half of it is distributed back to the four provinces. Sindh receives a fixed percentage which is thereby calculated in accordance to population poverty levels. It then injects it into funding teachers, hospitals and medicines. Plus, it is used for schemes recommended by MNA’s and MPA’s. The government also provides funding from major financial streams such as its own internal fund to supplement Sindh by also using Sales tax on services. It collects property tax, agricultural income taxes etc. It is aided by international Loans as local tax is not enough to cover massive infrastructure projects. It partners with global financial institutions that provide low interest loans designed specifically for the poor. The World Bank and the Asian Development Bank fund long term schemes such as improving Sindh Water and Agricultural transformation. The UN agencies, Public Private partnerships (PPP’s) stretch its budget further; the Sindh government uses a model to divide the cost with private companies, and those that are non profit groups. NGO’s manage the daily running costs of staffing by doing so they reduce corruption and

thus they lower the financial burden on the State.

In Sindh’s fiscal budget this year it unveiled a massive total of Rs 3,562 trillion. Education was allotted R/s 338.2 billion. Basic health care was allotted 38.9 billion. For the development of the province it was assigned 38.9 billion Rupees which is meant to expand hospitals and improve health provision.

Lawmakers try to secure funds by pushing harder during budget sessions to ensure their specific districts are granted funds for heavy duty projects i.e. building new rural health amenities, setting up high schools and for developing major water drainage networks.

A parliamentary Task Force run by Assembly members has been initiated, and its responsibility is to track spending, the United Nations development program overseas and reviews how money is spent and ensures that local funding reaches projects for the poor.

We must note that Sindh receives roughly 24.55 % of the entire provincial pool. Therefore, regardless of political arguments at the top Sindh receives a steady stream of billions that flow into the Province to keep lights on, schools running and ensuring hospitals and water networks remain in operation.

But our Minister Naqvi wants a Reset? And I’m not too fond of this contemporary word that is used by the West to propagate a fundamental change! I agree on healthy debates that first and most protects the integrity, the interests and the needs of the people of Sindh province and for that matter all provinces. Decisions based on dominant thought processes ones that have been inherited from colonial world order reduce us to question our choices of leadership. Our thoughts must not be dictated by the script and narratives of those that ignore our demands. We must question the truth and falsehood and implement a suitable strategic approach that challenges the government to do more! Government officials should be more approachable, to account for any misdeemeanors or mistakes that have not been corrected. Meetings should be held on a local and national level to be productive that encourages and ensures further insights and inspection of where the public funds are spent and if they have been spent appropriately? A powerful public committee can be lawfully established in towns and cities up and down the country; that represents its people to liaise with Parliamentarians officially checking the purse of the government and ensuring all people are given their rights to education, health and safe water supplies.

New Administrative Units: Constitutional Supremacy, Better Governance and a Path to Public Prosperity



By Ch Shabbir Balochistani
Published by ANI News Agency

The debate over the creation of new administrative units and provinces in Pakistan has once again gained national significance. At its core, this is not merely a question of redrawing political boundaries. It is fundamentally about better governance, administrative efficiency, equitable distribution of resources, effective public representation and bringing essential state services closer to the people.

If new administrative units are created on the basis of genuine public needs, sound administrative considerations and constitutional procedures, they can contribute positively to making Pakistan’s governance system more efficient, balanced and people-oriented.

Yet there is a fundamental principle that must not be overlooked: the success of any new administrative arrangement ultimately depends on constitutional supremacy and the rule of law.

The Constitution of 1973 is not merely a legal document. It is the fundamental framework governing the state and an important constitutional compact defining the relationship between the federation and the provinces, the powers of state institutions and the fundamental rights of citizens.

Pakistan’s sustainable progress therefore requires that the Constitution be treated not simply as a formal document, but as the practical foundation of the state’s political and institutional system.

Respect for the Constitution is not the responsibility of any single political party or institution. It is a shared national responsibility of Parliament, political parties and their workers, the judiciary, the administration, state institutions and all other constitutional stakeholders.

When every institution operates within its constitutional mandate, institutional confrontation can be reduced, political stability can be strengthened and public confidence in the state can be restored.

Pakistan’s history has repeatedly demonstrated that when constitutional continuity is weakened, the consequences extend far beyond poli-

tics. Economic uncertainty, weak governance, reduced investment, unemployment and social instability are also affected.

The time has therefore come to learn from the past and make constitutionalism the strongest foundation for national consensus.

Within this framework, the creation of new administrative units can become a meaningful reform. Where population growth, geography, administrative expansion or the need for public services demonstrate that a new administrative structure could improve governance, the proposal deserves serious consideration.

But such decisions should not be driven by political slogans, temporary interests or emotional considerations. They should be based on administrative needs, credible data, public consultation and the constitutional process.

The objective of a new administrative unit should be simple: ordinary citizens should not have to travel excessive distances to access government institutions; healthcare and education should improve; employment opportunities should expand; development planning should reflect local needs; and public administration should become more responsive and accountable.

Equally important is the question of resources and authority. A new administrative unit cannot succeed merely because a new name appears on the map. It must have clearly defined powers, adequate financial resources, institutional capacity and mechanisms of accountability.

Otherwise, changing administrative boundaries without reforming the underlying system will do little to transform the lives of ordinary citizens. This brings us back to the central importance of the Constitution.

If the Constitution of 1973 is implemented in its true spirit, Parliament is strengthened as the central institution of legislation, provincial autonomy and federal responsibilities are respected, and all institutions operate within their constitutional jurisdictions, new administrative units can become part of a broader national strategy for development and effective governance.

But if constitutional authority continues to be weakened, institutions operate beyond their prescribed boundaries and political or administrative decisions are shaped primarily by temporary interests and power dynamics, then creating one adminis-

trative unit—or even a hundred—will not solve the fundamental problems facing the people.

The debate over new administrative units should therefore not be presented as a confrontation between regions or provinces. It should instead be viewed as an opportunity to build a stronger, more efficient and more responsive federation of Pakistan.

Every region and every citizen must receive equal constitutional respect, opportunity and protection.

Pakistan’s real strength lies in its constitutional unity, institutional stability and meaningful participation of its people. Administrative reforms can strengthen that unity and make governance more effective—provided their ultimate purpose remains public service.

Pakistan needs a system in which the Constitution is supreme, institutions operate within their defined jurisdictions, political differences are not treated as hostility, Parliament is strengthened, the judiciary performs its constitutional role independently, the administration remains accountable and citizens are treated as genuine stakeholders in the state.

New administrative units can be an important part of this journey, but they cannot be the destination.

The real destination is good governance, constitutional supremacy, political stability, economic development and public prosperity.

Therefore, the national priority should be clear: the Constitution of 1973 must be implemented in its true spirit; unconstitutional overreach must be prevented; institutions must operate within their constitutional limits; and new administrative units should be considered and established, where necessary, strictly within the constitutional framework and in accordance with genuine public and administrative needs.

If Pakistan strengthens constitutional governance, new administrative units can open new avenues of opportunity, prosperity and effective public service. But if constitutional supremacy is neglected, changing administrative maps will not resolve the fundamental challenges confronting the people. Pakistan does not merely need new administrative boundaries. It needs a strong constitutional order, responsible institutions, effective governance and renewed public trust. That is the foundation upon which a stable, progressive, prosperous and truly people-centred Pakistan can be built.

The \$10.6 Billion Question: Was Pakistan Paying for Electricity—or Simply Paying for Capacity?



Written by: Rana Farooq Ashraf
Published by ANI

Pakistan’s power crisis is no longer merely a question of load-shedding, expensive electricity bills, or rising tariffs. The deeper crisis lies in the structure of the power sector itself—its contracts, planning, capacity payments, and the enormous financial burden ultimately passed on to ordinary consumers.

Recent figures regarding payments to Independent Power Producers (IPPs) have once again raised a fundamental question: Is Pakistan paying only for the electricity it actually consumes, or is it also paying heavily for power-generation capacity that remains underutilized?

Between July 2025 and May 2026, billions of rupees were paid to private power producers. A substantial portion of these payments related not simply to electricity actually generated but to capacity commitments under existing agreements. This has triggered public debate and renewed scrutiny of Pakistan’s power-sector model.

Capacity payments are not, by themselves, evidence of wrongdoing. Under certain power-purchase agreements, producers are entitled to payments for maintaining available generation capacity, even when that capacity is not fully utilized. From a contractual perspective, such arrangements may be legitimate. But from the perspective of the national economy, a much bigger question must be asked:

Were these contracts designed according to Pakistan’s actual long-term electricity demand, and do they still make economic sense today?

This question deserves serious attention because Pakistan has experienced a fundamental mismatch between installed generation capacity and actual electricity demand. When consumers

cannot afford expensive electricity, industrial activity slows, and power plants operate below their potential, the country can find itself paying for capacity that it cannot economically utilize.

The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority’s own assessments have highlighted the significant role of capacity-related costs in the overall power-purchase structure. Excess generation capacity and low plant utilization have emerged as important factors contributing to the rising cost of electricity.

This leads to another unavoidable question:

If the country does not need or cannot afford to utilize its entire installed capacity, why were such large capacity commitments made in the first place?

And if those decisions were reasonable when the contracts were signed, should the state not periodically reassess them in light of today’s economic realities?

This is not a question that belongs to one political party, one government, or one institution. It concerns every Pakistani who receives an electricity bill at the end of the month.

The electricity bill is no longer simply a payment for units consumed. It reflects a complicated chain of generation costs, capacity charges, taxes, surcharges, transmission and distribution losses, electricity theft, fuel costs, and the accumulated burden of the circular debt.

Therefore, the debate must move beyond political slogans.

The government should make the power sector substantially more transparent. Details of every major IPP agreement should be publicly accessible: the original investment, agreed tariff structure, capacity payments, actual electricity generation, plant utilization, fuel arrangements, dollar-linked components, and the total amount paid by the state over the life of each contract.

Only then can citizens determine where the problem lies.

There is, however, another side to this debate. It would be unfair to place the entire responsibility for Pakistan’s elec-

tricity crisis on IPPs. Electricity theft, transmission and distribution losses, poor recovery by distribution companies, expensive fuel, inefficient public-sector power entities, and weak planning have also contributed significantly to the crisis.

Pakistan therefore needs a complete reform of the energy sector rather than another temporary increase in electricity tariffs.

Investment must be protected, legitimate contractual obligations must be respected, and the rights of consumers must be safeguarded. But no system can remain sustainable if its financial structure continuously transfers inefficiencies to ordinary citizens.

If payments to power producers have been made under valid contracts, the government should have no reason to hide those contracts from the public. If certain agreements have become economically damaging, they should be renegotiated wherever legally possible.

If evidence of corruption, collusion, or abuse of authority exists, responsibility must be fixed without political discrimination.

Because the real question is not merely about \$10.6 billion.

The real question is about Pakistan’s economic future.

How long can a country continue paying for electricity that its citizens and industries increasingly cannot afford? How long should honest consumers bear the cost of theft, inefficiency, poor planning, and excessive contractual obligations?

Pakistan needs answers—not accusations. It needs transparency—not political point-scoring. It needs institutional accountability—not another burden placed on the consumer. The time has come for the electricity bill to carry more than a demand for payment. The public deserves to understand the complete financial story behind that bill.

Because citizens are not merely electricity consumers.

They are the ultimate financiers of the power sector—and they have every right to ask where their money is going.

Senate Committee Seeks Action Against ASF, PIA Personnel Over Misconduct

Report: ANI

ISLAMABAD -- The Senate Standing Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, chaired by Senator Waqar Mehdi, directed the ASF and PIA to take action against personnel accused of mistreating senators.

The committee discussed privilege motions by Senators Samina Mumtaz Zehri and Bilal Ahmed Mandokhail regarding incidents at Karachi airport and involving PIA cabin crew.

ASF officials apologized to Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri, but she declined to accept the apology and demanded an inquiry against the concerned Inspector Shafqat. The committee ordered that the inspector be presented at its next meeting.

Senator Bilal Ahmed Mandokhail demanded action against the PIA



cabin crew member involved in his case. Senator Sadia Abbasi opposed further action, noting that the female staff member had already apologized. The committee nevertheless recommended disciplinary action according to the rules.

Chairman Senator Waqar Mehdi

said the system itself was not flawed, but the conduct of certain individuals damaged the reputation of institutions. He stressed the need for effective checks and balances and respect for passengers' dignity.

Other agenda items were deferred due to the absence of the movers.

Kashmiri Delegates Brief UN Adviser on Kashmir Situation

Report: ANI Correspondent:

GENEVA -- Kashmiri delegates Dr. Raja Muhammad Sajjad Khan and Prof. Dr. Shugufta Ashraf met Professor Chaloka Beyani, UN Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, at the United Nations Office in Geneva and briefed him on the situation in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The delegates expressed concern over what they described as continued killings, forced displacement, demographic changes, restrictions on fundamental freedoms and impunity in IIOJK. They urged the United Nations to examine the situation from the perspective of genocide prevention and prevention of other atrocity crimes.

They cited figures relating to civilian deaths since 1947 and referred to reports of mass graves and large-scale displacement, calling for independent investigations and forensic examinations.

The delegates also raised concerns over laws and policies including the Public Safety Act, AFSPA, domicile regulations, land laws and media-related policies, which they said had affected the political, civil and social life of the people of IIOJK.



They highlighted cases of conflict-related sexual violence, including the Kunan-Poshpora case, and called for independent investigations, accountability and effective remedies for victims. Referring to assessments by Genocide Watch, the delegates stressed the importance of early-warning and preventive mechanisms where indicators of atrocity crimes exist. They urged the UN to strengthen monitoring and early-warning mechanisms and conduct credible investigations into killings, mass graves, forced displacement, sexual violence and other alleged

serious violations.

The Kashmiri representatives also called for accountability for alleged war crimes, crimes against humanity and gross human rights violations, stressing that impunity should not undermine international human rights and humanitarian law.

The meeting concluded with an appeal to the UN Special Adviser and relevant international mechanisms to consider the concerns presented by the delegates and strengthen preventive measures to protect the civilian population of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sustained International Monitoring Needed on Kashmir Human Rights Situation, Shagufta Ashraf

Report: ANI

GENEVA --Professor Dr. Shagufta Ashraf has called for sustained international monitoring, effective scrutiny and accountability regarding the human rights situation in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing the 63rd Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, she said human rights violations should not merely be documented in reports but must be followed by practical measures to protect victims. She referred to the 2018 and 2019 reports of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), saying concerns regarding fundamental freedoms, accountability and access to justice in Jammu and Kashmir required continued international attention and action. Dr. Shagufta Ashraf said repression was increasingly affecting institutional and civic life, with the dismissal of government employees



without transparent due process raising concerns over arbitrary deprivation of livelihood, discrimination and political interference.

She urged the Human Rights Council to ensure unhindered access to Jammu and Kashmir, strengthen independent monitoring mecha-

nisms, engage with victims and civil society, and issue a comprehensive third OHCHR report on the situation. She said the credibility of the Human Rights Council would be measured not only by documenting concerns but also by ensuring that injustices faced by victims were not ignored.

RPO Khurram Shehzad Haider Waraich Visits Gujranwala, Reviews Police Performance



By: Dr. MB Qamar / ANI

GUJRANWALA -- Regional Police Officer Khurram Shehzad Haider Waraich visited Gujranwala district and inspected police stations, warehouses and SDPO offices in Kamonki and Nowshera Warkan.

The RPO reviewed police records, front desks, cleanliness, administra-

tive matters and the security of case-related property, directing officers to ensure proper record maintenance and compliance with rules.

He also held open courts in Kamonki and Nowshera Warkan, where he listened to citizens' complaints and ordered concerned officers to take immediate action on merit.

RPO Waraich directed police officers to strengthen crime prevention, patrolling and surveillance of criminal elements, stressing that citizens must be treated respectfully and their complaints resolved promptly. He said negligence in crime prevention, investigation or action against criminals would not be tolerated.

PTI's Sindh Reception Forces PML-N, PPP Alliance: Khalid Nawaz Sadhraich



Report: ANI :

ISLAMABAD-- Central Information Secretary of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Kisan Wing, Khalid Nawaz Sadhraich, said the massive public reception accorded to PTI leadership during its Sindh tour had unsettled the ruling coalition and forced the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) to set aside their differences and remain united to retain power.

Sadhraich, speaking after return-

ing from Sindh with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi, said police action, alleged unlawful detentions and political victimization had failed to suppress PTI's popularity.

He claimed that people from different sections of society participated in large numbers in the PTI caravan from Ghotki to Karachi, challenging the perception that Sindh remained exclusively a PPP stronghold.

He further alleged that despite the arrest of hundreds of PTI workers and harassment of thousands of others,

the public mobilization had created concern among the ruling circles and prompted political opponents to realign. Sadhraich announced that PTI would hold a nationwide protest on September 27, which he said would change the direction of Pakistani politics. Rejecting reports of internal differences, he said PTI was fully united and there were no disagreements at any level regarding the September 27 protest. He alleged that political opponents were spreading fake news about internal divisions to undermine the movement.

Jang Bazar FC Crowned Champions as Chitral Football League Season 6 Concludes

By: ANI Correspondent:

CHITRAL -- The sixth season of the Chitral Football League (CFL) concluded at Colonel Murad Football Stadium in Drosh, with Jang Bazar Football Club Chitral defeating Pakistan Navy on penalties to lift the championship trophy.

Organized by Ideal Football Club Drosh with the support of Chitral Scouts 143 Wing, the national-level tournament attracted teams and players from across Pakistan and drew thousands of football fans to the final.

The match remained goalless during regular time, with Jang Bazar FC eventually securing victory in the penalty shootout.

Lieutenant Colonel Hassan Abbas and Lieutenant Colonel Junaid Wasim, Commanders of Chitral Scouts 143 Wing, were the chief guests. Several senior officials, football personalities and prominent figures also attended the final.

Qadeer of Pakistan Army was declared the tournament's top scorer



with eight goals and Player of the Tournament. Pakistan Navy goalkeeper Mohsin was named Best Goalkeeper, while Jang Bazar FC's Umar Javed Sadozai received the Man of the Match award.

Jang Bazar FC received a trophy and Rs. 300,000 cash prize, while run-

ners-up Pakistan Navy were awarded Rs. 100,000.

PFF Executive Committee member Mohsin Chaudhry also presented a special gift to CFL founder and chief organizer Kamal Abdul Jamil in recognition of his efforts in successfully organizing the tournament.

ICCI Delegation Calls on Minister of State for Interior

Report: FT Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD --- A delegation of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), led by President Sardar Tahir Mehmood, called on Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry and discussed the sealing of commercial plazas and other regulatory issues affecting Islamabad's business community.

The delegation raised concerns regarding CDA-related matters, including Floor Area Ratio (FAR) charges, parking requirements and compliance issues. It stressed that fire-safety enforcement should ensure public safety while providing businesses with clear guidelines, due process and reasonable opportunities to rectify deficiencies where legally permissible.

It was agreed that the issues would be pursued through structured consultation, with ICCI serving as a single-window platform between the business community and relevant



government departments.

Talal Chaudhry reaffirmed the government's commitment to a business-friendly approach and assured the delegation that genuine concerns would be addressed through a coordinated and pragmatic mechanism.

Sardar Tahir Mehmood said the business community fully supports safety standards and responsible reg-

ulation, while stressing that enforcement should facilitate compliance rather than create unnecessary disruption.

The delegation included ICCI Vice President Irfan Chaudhry, former President Mohammed Ejaz Abbasi, Executive Member Imran Minhas and former Senior Vice President Khalid Chaudhry.

Corps Commander Balochistan's Special Meeting with Top Media Representatives, Resolve to Take Every Possible Step for Sustainable Peace



BY: ANI Correspondent:

QUETTA -- The Corps Commander Balochistan has said that security operations will continue until the elimination of the last terrorist to establish sustainable peace in the province.

A delegation of Pakistan's top media representatives held a special meeting with the Corps Commander Balochistan in Quetta. During the meeting, the media delegation was

given a detailed briefing on the current security situation in the province.

The Corps Commander Quetta briefed the media representatives on the restoration of law and order in Balochistan, the prevailing security challenges, and the ongoing measures for peace and stability. He clarified that every possible measure is being taken to establish peace and stability in Balochistan and that along with the restoration of law and order, the jour-

ney of development in Balochistan will also continue.

On this occasion, the media delegation also inspected the weapons and ammunition recovered from the terrorists.

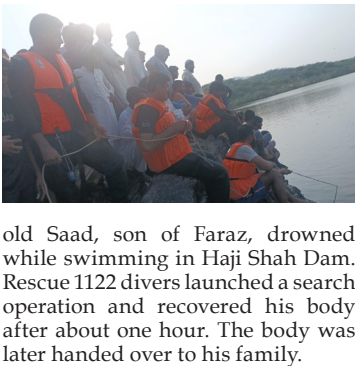
Later, the media delegation also paid a special visit to CMH Quetta, where the delegation inquired after the well-being of soldiers injured during the ongoing operation against terrorism in Balochistan and paid tribute to their sacrifices.

Attock Man Killed in Road Accident, Teenager Drowns in Dam

BY:Ijaz-ul-Hassan / ANI :

ATTOCK -- A 63-year-old man was killed in a car-motorcycle collision, while a 15-year-old boy drowned in Haji Shah Dam in separate incidents in Attock on Friday.

According to Rescue 1122, Arif Sultan, a resident of Peoples Colony, was critically injured when a car hit his motorcycle in Farooq-e-Azam Colony. He was shifted to DHQ Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. The car driver fled the scene. In another incident, 15-year-



old Saad, son of Faraz, drowned while swimming in Haji Shah Dam. Rescue 1122 divers launched a search operation and recovered his body after about one hour. The body was later handed over to his family.