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PM, ADB vice-president discuss early groundbreaking of ML-1

Italian Ambassador calls on MoS/SAPM Fahd Haroon; discusses Digital Media landscape

48 terrorists killed in IBOs across Balochistan over 72 hours: ISPR



STAFF REPORT, Security forces killed 48 “Indian sponsored terrorists” in intelligence-based operations (IBOs) in Balochistan over the last 72 hours, the military’s media wing said on Friday. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the anti-terrorist operations were carried out in Mastung, Quetta, Kalat and Sibi districts against “Indian proxies, Fitna-al-Hindustan and Fitna-al-Khawarij”.

The federal government last year officially designated all terrorist groups operating in Balochistan as ‘Fitna al-Hindustan’, accusing India of sponsoring a

proxy war through these outfits. “During comprehensive anti-terrorist operations with increased tempo in Balochistan, in last twelve - twenty four hours Security Forces have conducted multiple Intelligence based operations in Mastung, Quetta, Kalat and Sibi District of Balochistan, against Indian proxies, Fitna al Hindustan & Fitna al Khwarij sending to hell thirty six Indian sponsored terrorists,” ISPR said. The military’s media wing noted that on September 4 2026, during the conduct of an operation in Mastung, the movement of terrorists was “identified and engaged” by security

forces, further adding that the intense exchange of fire resulted in the killing of six “Indian sponsored terrorists”. The statement also added that a cache of ammunition and improvised explosive devices was also destroyed on-site. ISPR stated that “in another engagement, an intelligence-based operation was conducted in the general area of Shaban, district Quetta. During the conduct of the operation, own troops identified four Khwarij hideouts and, after an ensuing fire exchange, neutralised twenty-six Khwarij”.

The statement further added that

another IBO was conducted in Kalat, stating that during the conduct of the operation, security forces raided a terrorist hide-out and killed two Indian sponsored terrorists. “In Bhag area of district Sibi, swift response by security forces in conjunction with local population foiled terrorist attempt to raid police station, Bhag. During the fire exchange, two Indian sponsored terrorists were sent to hell,” ISPR said. The statement noted that in the “last forty-eight to seventy-two hours, 48 terrorists belonging to Indian proxies, Fitna al Hindustan & Fitna al Khwarij have been neutralised across Balochistan”.

FO rejects India’s claims over Narowal temple demolition as ‘false, politically motivated’

STAFF REPORT, The Foreign Office (FO) on Friday rejected India’s allegations over the reported demolition of a century-old Hindu temple in Narowal as “false and polit-



ically motivated,” saying the structure had been damaged by torrential rains. India’s Foreign Ministry on September 2 expressed concern over reports of the destruction of the historic temple in Siraj village, describing it as an act of vandalism against a century-old minority place of worship. “We categorically reject the false and politically motivated assertions made by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs,” FO spokesperson Sajjad Haider Khan said in response to media queries regarding the temple at Adda Siraj, Narowal. “Unlike the false propaganda being peddled by India, the temple’s structure was damaged on July 21, 2026 due to torrential rains,” Khan said. He added that local authorities had already surveyed the damage caused by the rains and “initiated steps for the restoration of the building.” “It is, therefore, shameful that India is distorting facts and resorting to cheap gimmicks,” the spokesperson said. According to the Pakistani government, the over-century-old temple had collapsed following torrential rains. However, a minority rights group had claimed that the structure was deliberately demolished to facilitate the expansion of an adjoining seminary. Khan said India’s “distortion of facts” could not divert attention from its treatment of minorities. “Such deliberate distortion of facts cannot distract attention from India’s abysmal record of systematic persecution of minorities and state-sponsored attacks against their places of worship,” he said. “The world is well aware of the weaponisation of Hindutva ideology against minorities,” the spokesperson concluded, noting that Indian leadership “must be held accountable” for the persecution of Muslim, Sikh and Christian communities.

PM, ADB vice-president discuss early groundbreaking of ML-1



ment partnership and chart out priority interventions under the new Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) 2026-2030,” it added. Welcoming Yang on his first official visit to Pakistan as ADB vice president, PM Shehbaz praised the bank’s “consistent professionalism and responsiveness” in delivering transformative urban infrastructure, transport, and public service projects in the country. The prime minister also said Pakistan had successfully navigated a difficult economic recovery through “rigorous fiscal, structural, and governance reforms”. “These corrective actions have restored macroeconomic stability, reinforced investor confidence, and earned stable outlook upgrades from major international credit rating agencies including Fitch, Moody’s, and S&P,” he said. PM Shehbaz reaffirmed the government’s commitment to long-term economic transformation and “stressed that the administrative bottlenecks are being actively dismantled through dedicated execution task forces.” The meeting also explored ways to expand cooperation in several sectors, including support for the private sector, energy security and food security. “Expanding cooperation in various sectors, the meeting explored collaborative avenues in support for private sector, energy security, food security, enhancing support in export competitiveness, Artificial Intelligence and Information Technology,” the PMO said.

STAFF REPORT, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday stressed the need for the early groundbreaking of the Main Line-1 (ML-1) railway project, saying the Karachi-to-Peshawar corridor was vital for modernising freight transport and strengthening regional trade connectivity, the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) said. According to the PMO. It was discussed during a breakfast meeting between the prime minister and Asian Development Bank (ADB) Vice President for South, Central and West Asia Yingming Yang in Islamabad on Friday. PM Shehbaz said upgrading ML-1 was “essential for modernising freight logistics, strengthening regional trade connectivity, and supporting major industrial initiatives”. The meeting discussed the need for the “early groundbreaking of ML1”, which the PMO said was vital for infrastructure development and modernising connectivity. “The meeting reviewed the multi-decade develop-



Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Privatisation Muhammad Ali and ADB Vice President Yingming Yang at the National Strategic Dialogue on PPPs and Privatisation and launch of the Pakistan PPP Monitor.

Acting President Gilani briefed on regional security situation

APP- ISLAMABAD: Acting President, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Friday was briefed on the regional security situation, especially matters affecting Pakistan’s peace and stability during a meeting with Pakistan’s Ambassador to Afghanistan Ubaid Ur Rehman Nizamani here at Aiwan-e-Sadr. In a separate meeting, World Chairman and Ambassador at Large, International Human Rights Commission, Dr. Muhammad Shahid Amin Khan,



also called on the acting president and presented him the Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Lifetime Achievement Award, a Presidency’s

news release said. In another meeting, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) City President for Multan, Malik Naseem Labar, called on the acting president and apprised him of political matters related to Multan and South Punjab. Chairman of National Insurance Company Limited, Ali Syed, paid a courtesy call on Acting President Gilani and apprised him of the performance, overall progress and key initiatives of the company.

Next Makkah alliance meeting may be held in Pakistan: Asif

STAFF REPORT, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has said the next committee meeting on the Makkah Joint Defense Agreement will be held in early October, with Pakistan potentially hosting the session. Speaking to journalists at Parliament House, Khawaja Asif said the venue would be finalized through mutual consultation among the participating countries. He said the next meeting of the committee on the Makkah Joint Defense Agreement is expected to take place in early

October. He said the venue has not yet been finalized, but the meeting could be held in Pakistan. The final decision will be made through consultation among the participating countries. Khawaja Asif said the first committee meeting, held in Istanbul, included detailed consultations on the structure of the defence alliance, its centre and the officials who would be part of the organization. The establishment of a secretariat and the structure of offices under the secretary general were also discussed during the meeting. He said the question of



Candidate for the position of Secretary General of the United Nations H.E. Ambassador Olara Otunnu called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Mian Channu: Anti-corruption action, fugitive stamp seller who prepared fake confession arrested

FIR Report, Khanewal:

The Anti-Corruption Establishment Department, Multan, has arrested the wanted fugitive accused stamp seller Amjad Khan in the case of preparing a fake confession. According to the details, action is underway against corrupt elements on the instructions of Director General Anti-Corruption Establishment Punjab Sohail Zafar Chatha. Under the supervision of Regional Director Anti-Corruption Multan Basharat Nabi, Deputy Director Investigation Anti-Corruption Khanewal Ghaffar Ali took action and arrested the wanted



fugitive accused Amjad Khan stamp seller in case number 515 dated August 23, 2021 registered at Police Station City Mian Channu.

According to anti-corruption officials, action was taken in the case under sections 420, 468 and 471 of the Pakistan Penal Code. It is alleged that the accused, in alleged collusion, prepared a fake confession on stamp paper with the forged signature of Nasira Rafiq, widow of Mirza Muhammad Rafiq, the late husband, with the aim of depriving Sayla of her property. According to the authorities, the accused was found guilty during the investigation.

Gujranwala : (Beauru Report) On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala, Add AC Sadar madam Saima Khan inspected and monitored different activities including Suthra Punjab door to door collection of waste along with Area Manager .

Directed to improve waste collection and derp cleaning of plots at the earliest to avoid further action.



PCDRC Launching Ceremony Held in Gujranwala; Certificates Distributed Among Participants



Gujranwala: (Beauru Report)

A launching ceremony of the PCDRC was held in Gujranwala, with the participation of around 200 PCDRC members. The ceremony was attended by Sir Syed Sikander Sab, Regional Officer, Civil Defence Lahore Region, and Sir Faisal Majeed, Assistant Commissioner Saddar Gujranwala.

The Chief Warden of the PCDRC organization also participated in the ceremony. Addressing the gathering,

the distinguished guests appreciated the participation and dedication of the PCDRC members and highlighted the importance of community participation, preparedness, and coordinated efforts in emergency and "Civil Defence" activities. During the ceremony, certificates were distributed among the participating members in recognition of their participation and services. The guests congratulated the certificate recipients and encouraged them to continue playing their

role in serving the community.

The organizers expressed their special gratitude to Syed Sikander, Regional Officer Civil Defence Lahore Region, and Faisal Majeed, Assistant Commissioner Saddar Gujranwala, for their valuable presence and support in making the ceremony successful. The event concluded with appreciation for all participants and a renewed commitment to strengthening community-based civil defence initiatives.

On the directions of the DC Gujranwala, AC City Ashar Jamil Khan Visited Maternity Hospital- Sattelite Town



Gujranwala : (Beauru Report)

according to the details, * □Smoke detectors have been installed and operational.

* □Fire extinguishers were duly placed and marked with expiry dates. * □Cleanliness was properly maintained and found satisfactory.

* □Attendance was checked and found complete. * □No complaints from the patients w.r.t medicine availability and doctor's treatment.

ADC Attock Reviews Dengue Prevention Measures, Orders Effective Surveillance



ATTOCK (STAFF REPORT) Additional Deputy Commissioner, Municipal Services, Anil Saeed, presided over a meeting on prevention and control of dengue held at the Municipal Committee Hall. The meeting was attended by heads of various departments and concerned officers at the district level. The meeting was also attended by CEO Health, Chief Officer, Municipal Committee, officers of the Municipal Committee and representatives of other concerned departments. During the meeting, a detailed review of dengue prevention, preventive measures and departmental performance was

taken. On this occasion, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Municipal Services, Anil Saeed directed all the concerned departments to discharge their responsibilities with full diligence, seriousness and efficiency as per the instructions of the Chief Minister, Punjab. He said that dengue is a major public problem, for the prevention of which all institutions should work under a coordinated strategy and communication. He stressed that all departments should make timely surveillance of dengue larvae, sanitation, preventive actions and awareness activities more effective in their respective areas. No negligence or negligence will be tolerated.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner Municipal Services said that the concerned institutions should complete their operations in a timely manner and ensure effective surveillance in the field so that the potential dangers of dengue can be addressed in a timely manner and the citizens can be protected from this harmful disease. He urged all officers to fulfill their responsibilities to the fullest extent for the eradication of dengue as per the instructions of the Punjab government and ensure the safety of life and property of the people at all costs.

On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala, DHO PS DHA Health Gujranwala visited Union Council No. 31, Gujranwala on 04.09.2026 at 09:35am and found that



Gujranwala : (Beauru Report)

According to the details, 1. Only Vaccinator present in the

Field and working.

2. All CHI, Male and female sanitary patrol found absent in the Field, no one picking call.

3. Sumbal Shahzadi UCMO also found absent.

4. Explanation called for all absent staff for personal hearing

G Mongolia Park The presence of venomous snakes and dangerous insects in dense bushes has created panic among residents The society management G. Mongolia Park should carry out a special operation of cutting the bushes and grass in the vacant plots, and spraying of insecticides should also be done. Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala take immediate notice,



Gujranwala: (Bureau Report)

According to details; Residents are facing severe problems due to the lack of cutting and cleaning of bushes and weeds after the monsoon rains in Mongolia Park. The presence of poisonous snakes and

various types of dangerous insects in the dense bushes created after the monsoon rains has caused panic among the citizens. which has not yet been regularly cut and cleaned, the residents further said that there are bushes and weeds near the houses adjacent to the

park, due to which dangerous poisonous insects have become a norm to enter the houses. Effective spraying should also be done for eradication. Residents of G Mongolia have demanded immediate notice from Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala.

Rawalpindi Police Hold Open Court, Order Prompt Resolution of Public Complaints



Rawalpindi (Staff Report)

SSP Investigation Saifullah and SP Headquarters Muhammad Saleem Khattak held an open court at Police Lines Headquarters, after listening to the complaints of the citizens, issued orders to the concerned officers to resolve them, legal action should be ensured within the given time frame on the marked applications, instructions were given to the concerned officers, no

negligence will be tolerated in the immediate resolution of the problems of the citizens. According to the details, SSP Investigation Saifullah and SP Headquarters Muhammad Saleem Khattak held an open court at Police Lines Headquarters, after listening to the complaints of the citizens, issued orders to the concerned officers to resolve them, senior officers issued instructions to the concerned officers, said that legal action should be

ensured within the given time frame on the marked applications, no negligence will be tolerated in the immediate resolution of the problems of the citizens, best service delivery for the citizens in the police stations will be ensured at all times, according to the vision of the Chief Minister of Punjab, the protection of the lives and property of the citizens and the provision of facilities to them. Supply is the top priority for which all measures are being taken.

PEC Launches Skill Development Training for 1,400 Graduate Engineers Across Pakistan



Staff Report, Islamabad:

The Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) has commenced a one-month Skill Development Training for the second cohort (Phase-II: Graduates of 2025) under its Graduate Engineer Trainee (GET) Placement Program, a structured house job programme for young engineers. The initiative covers 1,400 trainee engineers, with the first 700 undergoing training from September 1 to 30, 2026, while the remaining 700 will receive training from October 1 to 31, 2026.

PEC is implementing the GET Placement Program in collaboration with more than 60 industrial partners across the country, providing graduate engineers with structured field exposure and professional development opportunities.

Under the programme, trainees undergo five months of field training with industrial partners followed by one month of skill development training, while each trainee receives a monthly stipend of Rs50,000 during the programme.

The skill development component is being conducted five days a week at eight training centers in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Lahore, Multan, Karachi, Hyderabad and Quetta. The curriculum covers communication, emotional intelligence, executive presence, stress management, business writing, public speaking, conflict resolution, stakeholder management, critical thinking, time management, innovation and engineering ethics. During the final week, trainees will also attend a one-week Certificate Program in Personality

Development organized by the National Defence University (NDU).

Chairman PEC Engr. Waseem Nazir said the GET Placement Program is aimed at bridging the gap between academic education and professional practice by providing young engineers with hands-on industrial exposure alongside essential workplace skills. He said the house job model for engineers would help improve employability, strengthen industry-academia linkages and prepare graduates to meet evolving industry requirements. He added that PEC remains focused on creating meaningful professional opportunities for young engineers and developing a skilled engineering workforce capable of contributing to Pakistan's economic and technological development.

America facing a growing terror threat from within

DALIA AL-AQIDI

The US is being tested by a threat that is no longer distant, organized in foreign camps or directed solely from abroad. It is increasingly diffuse, harder to detect and more dangerous precisely because it grows from within. The rise in terrorist plots and attacks inspired by radicalism and extremism should alarm every American — not only because of their frequency but because of the conditions that allow them to take hold.

This is not speculation. It is the conclusion of America's own intelligence community.

The 2026 Annual Threat Assessment, released last week by Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, shows that the biggest terrorist risk America is facing today comes from individuals or small groups acting on their own, driven by extreme beliefs. These attackers are often not directly tied to larger organizations or guided by foreign groups. But they are still influenced by dangerous ideas that make violence seem justified and even necessary in response to what they see as injustice.

This shift represents a profound evolution in the threat landscape. Groups such as Daesh and Al-Qaeda may have lost much of their ability to carry out large-scale, coordinated attacks. But their ideological reach remains intact. In some ways, it has expanded. They no longer need to plan every attack. They only need to inspire one. The results are visible across the country. Two weeks ago in New York, two young men attempted to detonate improvised explosive devices outside the mayor's residence. According to federal prosecutors, they were motivated by Daesh-inspired ideology and sought to carry out an attack of devastating scale. The devices failed to detonate but the intent was unmistakable.

In Michigan, a Lebanese American male drove his vehicle into a synagogue while children were inside, turning a place of worship into a scene of fear. Investigators say the attacker held extremist views and deliberately chose his target, using his vehicle as a weapon to spread harm and intimidation. It was not just an attack on a building but on an entire community and its sense of safety.

On the same day in Virginia, a gunman

with a prior terrorism conviction opened fire in a university classroom while shouting religious slogans. Students who had come to learn found themselves in the middle of a violent, ideology-driven attack. The fact that the attacker was already known to authorities raises serious concerns about how such threats are monitored and contained.

In each case, the attackers did not act in isolation from ideas. Their actions were shaped over time by beliefs that frame violence as justified, even necessary. These are not isolated incidents but part of a pattern.

According to FBI Director Kash Patel, US authorities disrupted 640 planned terrorist attacks in the past year alone. At the same time, the FBI is investigating about 1,700 domestic terrorism cases. Many of these involve individuals driven by what officials describe as "nihilistic violent extremism" — a mindset rooted in hatred of society and a desire to create chaos. This is what terrorism in America looks like today: scattered, driven by ideology and much harder to detect and stop. But addressing this threat requires more than law enforcement. It requires honesty

about how people become radicalized — and how public narratives can speed up that process. Because terrorism does not start with violence, it starts with ideas.

It begins with the idea that a person's identity is under attack, their faith is under siege and the society around them is hostile and irredeemable. Once that belief takes hold, the path to radicalization becomes far shorter. This is why rhetoric matters.

When political figures suggest that the US is fundamentally hostile to a particular religion, they are not merely engaging in debate, they are shaping perceptions, especially among the young — impressionable individuals who may already feel alienated. Among the most prominent voices advancing this narrative is Rep. Ilhan Omar, who has repeatedly framed criticism of extremist ideologies as an attack on Muslims more broadly. This framing is deeply irresponsible. It blurs the line between protecting religious freedom and confronting extremist ideas. Washington must defend the first, but it cannot ignore the second. When criticism is dismissed as bigotry, harmful ideas go unchallenged, gain acceptance and

can push some individuals to see violence as justified. Such a pattern has been observed repeatedly, both in the US and abroad.

Policy needs to adapt to this threat.

The US should focus more on stopping radicalization early, especially online, and work with trusted voices in communities to push back against extremist ideas. Law enforcement also needs better tools, coordination and support to track lone attackers, who are harder to detect. At the same time, immigration and citizenship policies should reflect the seriousness of terrorism, with clear consequences for those who turn to violence. And most importantly, key security agencies must be fully supported, without political disruptions, so they can do their job effectively and keep the country safe. Finally, there must be a renewed commitment to clarity in public discourse. America is not at war with a religion. It is confronting an ideology that distorts faith, exploits grievance and justifies violence. Failing to make that distinction clear does not promote tolerance. It creates confusion — and that confusion is precisely what extremist groups rely on.

— Arab News

Africa is forging its own green future

ELIAS KAGUMYA

The Belem Package — the set of climate finance and adaptation measures adopted at last year's COP30 UN Climate Change Conference in Brazil — was limited in scope. Still, by acknowledging that the world can no longer design climate solutions for Africa without meaningful African input, it marked a profound shift in policymaking.

Despite accounting for less than 4 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, Africa is bearing the brunt of the climate crisis. As a result, the continent has in recent years moved from the periphery of the climate finance debate to the forefront. Much of the world now recognizes that Africa's path to net-zero emissions must foster development, not constrain it. Rather than replicating old patterns of dependency, African countries must industrialize, trade and grow while forging a low-carbon future.

The inaugural environmental, social and governance report by the African Export-Import Bank, known as Afreximbank, released during COP30, reflects this shift. It finds that instead of waiting for external solutions, African institutions are already taking the necessary steps to support the continent's economic development and climate ambitions. But to unlock climate finance at scale, African multilateral institutions must act as a coordinated force promoting a shared continental vision. The Afreximbank report highlights a range of practical instruments, such as the Climate Change Adaptation Finance Facility, which could help mobilize sustainable investments. Whether supporting solar projects in Cameroon or providing Nigerian businesses with stable power, these instruments demonstrate how decentralized clean energy can underpin Africa's industrialization and economic competitiveness.

Similarly, facilities such as the Africa Trade Transformation Fund can help address the continent's twin challenges of a heavy debt burden and climate vulnerability. The innovative Africa Trade Trust Fund, in particular, exemplifies the kind of project-driven instruments that will be critical to scaling up climate investment.

Effective climate action in Africa is inseparable from economic sovereignty and trade. Localizing green value chains, building low-carbon manufacturing hubs and investing in climate-resilient infrastructure are not merely climate initia-

tives, they are also nation-building projects crucial to a just transition.

The question now is whether the global financial system can adjust to this new reality. As Africa builds the necessary institutions for a sustainable future, advanced economies must honor their commitments by fully funding the Loss and Damage Fund, easing access to concessional finance and treating Africa not as an aid recipient but as an equal trading partner. Far from an act of charity, supporting Africa's green transition is the only viable path to global climate resilience and equitable growth. As COP30 made clear, the continent's financial institutions are already shifting toward clean energy on their own terms.

Africa's economic transformation will depend on technology transfer and capacity building, both of which are essential to the projects Afreximbank and its partners are financing. Consider solar farms. Beyond installation, this generating capacity becomes part of a future electricity grid, stimulates local component manufacturing and helps train a new generation of engineers.

Nigeria's Aba Integrated Power Project illustrates this holistic approach. By delivering stable, clean gas power to small businesses, it simultaneously tackles emissions, boosts productivity and strengthens local value chains.

The resulting multiplier effect reinforces the case for treating climate finance as development finance. Doing so answers a key question raised by many COP30 attendees: How can economies become both climate-resilient and globally competitive? The answer lies in integrated projects that link environmental progress with economic strength.

Make no mistake: systemic obstacles remain. Africa faces a staggering financing gap of \$1.6 trillion to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, underscoring the persistent misalignment between the global financial system and the continent's needs. The Belem Package, which acknowledges that imbalance, is a step in the right direction. Correcting distorted risk perceptions and the resulting high credit spreads, however, will be key to unlocking private capital at concessional rates.

Encouragingly, African institutions are already responding by developing de-risking tools and blended finance models, including concessional windows and trust funds, to attract private capital.

— Arab News

The US and Israel have different goals in the war on Iran

CON COUGHLIN

Donald Trump's claim that he knew nothing about Israel's attack on Iran's main gas field suggests that significant tensions exist between the US president and Israel over how best to prosecute their joint military campaign against Iran. Ever since Trump launched Operation Epic Fury more than three weeks ago, questions have been raised about the precise nature of the cooperation between the US military and its Israeli counterpart.

While Trump has suggested his main priority is to destroy, once and for all, Iran's ability to develop a nuclear weapons arsenal, the Israelis, who have dubbed their effort Operation Roaring Lion, appear determined to wage their campaign until regime change has been achieved in Tehran.

To this end, Israel's Mossad intelligence service has ruthlessly targeted key figures in the Iranian regime, with Israel said to have been heavily involved in last week's assassinations of Ali Larijani, Iran's national security chief, and Intelligence Minister Esmail Khatib.

There have even been reports of Mossad agents directly calling Iranian police officers and threatening to kill them in an attempt to secure defections. Leaked documents and recordings have revealed a wide-scale Israeli effort to scare lower-ranking officials in the hope of enabling a popular uprising in Iran, while also assassinating senior regime figures. By contrast, the US military has mainly been targeting Iran's nuclear and military sites, especially the country's ballistic missile launch pads that have been used to attack neighboring Gulf countries. While Trump has indicated he would like to see the war ultimately result in regime change in Tehran, he does not appear as committed to such an outcome as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has specifically said that

he wants Israel's military attacks on Iran to result in regime change.

One crucial difference in the prosecution of the war by the Americans and the Israelis has been an unwillingness on the part of the Americans to target key Iranian infrastructure, especially its energy sector — at least so far.

Trump's approach was clear during the recent US military attack on Kharg Island, the narrow strip of Iranian territory in the Gulf that is responsible for about 90 percent of Iran's oil exports. While the US attacked a number of military bases operated by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, it avoided attacks on the island's oil facilities, with Trump declaring that he had deliberately left them untouched. By contrast, Israel appears to have no qualms about attacking key Iranian infrastructure targets, with Israeli warplanes launching an attack on the South Pars gas field on Wednesday.

While Israel insists that key Iranian infrastructure presents a legitimate target in its war against the regime, the attack on South Pars has exposed tensions between Israel and the Trump administration, with the American president insisting that he knew nothing about the Israeli attack, stating that Israel had "violently lashed out" by attacking the gas field. In an attempt to draw a red line over which targets should and should not be attacked in the war, Trump insisted that Israel would not conduct any more attacks against Iran's energy sector unless the Iranians continued their attacks on energy targets in the Gulf.

"Israel, out of anger for what has taken place in the Middle East, has violently lashed out at a major facility ... in Iran," Trump wrote on Truth Social. "No more attacks will be made by Israel pertaining to this extremely important and valuable South Pars field unless Iran unwisely decides to attack a very innocent, in this case, Qatar.

— Arab News



A Gulf lesson in crisis management

ARNAB NEIL SENGUPTA

For residents of Dubai, Feb. 28 was a normal day until the unfamiliar sounds of missile interceptions drowned out the background noise of speeding cars and construction activity. Those following the news at that very moment were perhaps the only ones who guessed what those sounds were. For the vast majority, however, it was a rude awakening. The country across the Gulf had suddenly begun hurling massive missiles and combat drones at key urban centers across the Arabian Peninsula in retaliation for a combined military assault by Israel and the US. The initial booms were possibly mistaken by many residents for rockets crashing into nearby buildings; in reality, they were the sounds of ballistic missiles being neutralized by state-of-the-art interceptors. Citizens and expatriates alike remained safe because these systems were so precise as to unfailingly find their targets high in the stratosphere. This has largely been the story for Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar over the past few weeks. If there were ever a defining moment of clarity for the denizens of the Gulf, this is it.

With the US-Israeli campaign to destroy Iran's missile infrastructure and military sites now in its fourth week, people here have become acutely aware of both the significant geopolitical risks and the structural advantages of the region. There are no scary sirens triggering panicked runs to bomb shelters. Instead, residents receive automated, localized alerts on their smartphones, informing them of threats and again when the "coast is clear." The precision is such that if a ballistic or cruise missile's trajectory poses no threat to a specific area or district, no alert is even sent, preventing unnecessary mass anxiety.

Underpinning this calm amid the tension is a master class in crisis management that should be taught in public-policy courses in the years to come. Governments across the region have maintained high levels of liquidity, ensuring that ATMs remain stocked and the financial system stays buoyant in spite of the market turbulence.

On the ground, the efficiency of civil defense has been nothing if not remarkable. Fires caused by falling shrapnel from successful interceptions are extinguished within minutes and the few injuries resulting from debris are handled with almost clinical speed. Furthermore, by quickly engaging with partners like Ukraine to integrate battle-tested anti-drone

technologies, the Gulf states are expected to eventually close the asymmetric threat gap opened up by the Iranian regime and its proxies. Critical to this stability has been the speed and transparency of official communication. By providing real-time updates and debunking misinformation within minutes, governments have effectively neutralized the rumor mills that usually thrive in conflict zones — and increasingly so in the age of politically motivated social influencers and artificial intelligence tools. This transparency has been instrumental in building and maintaining a sense of trust that keeps the social fabric intact in a region where non-citizens outnumber citizens in quite a few countries.

The physical evidence of this stability is everywhere. So far, there has not been a hint of a shortage: fresh food, cooking gas and electricity remain constant. Even flower shops are stocked with fresh imports from across the globe despite airspace being closed over many cities and the threats faced by ships using the Gulf. The sight of supermarkets brimming with dairy and other produce feels almost surreal during a conflict. Admittedly, many foreigners have temporarily relocated in response to embassy warnings, but the streets remain active. Delivery services, in particular, are busier than ever, with motorcycle riders crisscrossing cities day and night. Reports in Western publications suggesting a "flight of capital" or a mass exodus of the wealthy seem either agenda-driven or detached from reality. However, a nagging worry persists: the fear that Washington might declare a unilateral ceasefire or strike a deal with the regime in Tehran without seeking ironclad security guarantees for its Gulf partners. President Donald Trump's penchant for cavalier remarks — "a little excursion," "winding down" and "the war is very complete, pretty much" — does little to inspire confidence in a long-term American commitment, which is vital for the restoration of stability. Despite four weeks of bombardment, Iran's arsenal — and its network of proxies from Iraq to Yemen — remains a potent "known unknown," to use the NASA insider jargon made famous by US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld in 2002 ahead of the invasion of Iraq. Debates occasionally erupt on social media over whether on-air segments from cities like Dubai or Riyadh constitute reporting from a "war zone." Technically, the region is in a state of war, though not by its own choosing.

— Arab News

Letters to the Editor

Women's safety

The pressing issue for women in society is their safety. Many women do not feel safe when they walk in public, especially when they go to school, the market or their workplaces. This fear limits their freedom and participation in daily activities. Due to this fear, they are forced to stay at home, and they are not allowed to participate in any activities. But women's contributions have an immense role in keeping communities progressive and healthy. To improve safety in our community, I kindly request the installation of CCTV cameras and streetlights across the city. In our society, there are no streetlights which increases the risk of incidents. I also urge the provincial government and the Balochistan Commission on the Status of Women (BCSW) to take immediate measures for their safety.

Tamana Hanif
Hub

Underdeveloped institute

Turbat, a city that is already considered underdeveloped in many aspects, is facing serious challenges in the field of education — especially technical and vocational training which is essential for the progress of any nation. In our city, there is an institution called the Technical

Training Centre. Although the building exists and the department is officially established, it is not functioning properly. There is no effective system of education, and the centre appears active only in name. Several serious issues have been observed. Students are not receiving proper training and, in some cases, certificates are reportedly issued without merit. There is little to no supervision from the concerned authorities. Staff members are often absent from their duties, and the stipends meant for students are allegedly not reaching them. This institution has the potential to play a vital role in developing skills among the youth of the area. If managed properly, it could help young people become self-reliant and contribute positively to society and the economy. I respectfully request the district administration and the Government of Balochistan to take immediate action to make this department fully functional. Proper monitoring, accountability and sincere management are urgently needed so that this centre can truly serve its purpose and help produce skilled individuals who can stand on their own feet.

Mehrullah Ali
Turbat

Educational capabilities

Children have different IQ levels, and they per-

ceive events around them in their own unique ways. It is true that even mediocre students can present wonderful results if the concepts are explained to them effectively. Students with lower IQ levels can also excel in their studies if they are properly guided and given due attention. The environment also equally affects the performance of children. The education department should focus on the factors that hinder students from excelling in their studies. A good teacher considers the abilities and weaknesses of students and takes steps accordingly to bring improvement in their academic progress. Education is not something that can be ignored; it requires serious attention from authorities and the government if they truly want their nation to progress and achieve technological development. Often, if a student does not perform well in lower classes, teachers in higher classes label them as slow. The same perception is then often reinforced by parents. But the success of most students depends upon the behavior, hard work and dedication of teachers as well as parents to keep them on the right track. This is, no doubt, a huge responsibility, and it brings great respect to both teachers and parents. The need of the hour is to make sincere efforts to strengthen the nation by imparting quality education to the new generation.

Muhammad Iqbal Awan
Mianwali



An excavator works on the construction of the service road extension along Expressway near Faizabad interchange.

IAEA Training Course on Nuclear Crop Breeding concludes at NIAB Faisalabad

APP- ISLAMABAD: A two-week International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Regional Training Course on the “Application of Nuclear and Molecular Technologies for Enhancing Biotic and Abiotic Stress Resistance in Crop Breeding” concluded at the Nuclear Institute for Agriculture and Biology (NIAB), Faisalabad.

Organized by NIAB, a constituent institution of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), in collaboration with the IAEA, the course brought together 34 participants from 17 countries, including six from Pakistan, said a news release.

Dr. Shakeel Abbas Rofi, Member (Science), PAEC, was the Chief Guest at the concluding ceremony, highlighted PAEC’s contribution to Pakistan’s socio-economic development through the peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology. He



said PAEC’s four specialised institutes in agriculture and biotechnology, NIA, NIAB, NIFA and NIBGE, are working to develop climate-resilient crops, promote sustainable farming practices and support national food security. Highlighting PAEC’s wider contribution, he said its 21 cancer hospitals

cater to nearly 80 per cent of the country’s cancer patients, while its six nuclear power plants contribute around 3,500 MW of electricity to the national grid. He also referred to PAEC’s work in advanced research and human resource development through institutions including PIEAS, KINPOE,

CHASCENT and PINSTECH. Dr. Rofi noted that NIAB is an IAEA Collaborating Centre for nuclear techniques in food and agriculture, reflecting its recognized expertise and longstanding role in international cooperation in this field. He said PAEC’s collaboration with the IAEA and the Joint FAO/IAEA Centre remains an important part of efforts to apply science and technology for strengthening agricultural resilience and food security. He appreciated the IAEA for its continued support and for selecting Pakistan and NIAB to host the regional training course. He said hosting scientists from different IAEA Member States for such specialized training also highlights the capability of Pakistan’s scientific institutions, laboratories and experts to provide advanced technical training and share their expertise at the international level.

Power Division Moves to Reform Detection Bills

APP- ISLAMABAD: The Power Division has decided to introduce fundamental reforms in the detection billing system to protect electricity consumers from unnecessary hardships and additional financial burdens. This initiative is part of the ongoing broader reform process in the power sector led by Federal Minister for Power Division, Sardar Awaish Ahmad Khan Leghari, aimed at providing maximum relief to consumers and ensuring the effective protection of their rights, said a press release. In the past, in cases of meter malfunctions, technical faults, or the inability to accurately record electricity consumption, detection bills were issued by estimating consumption under relevant rules and regulations. However, in certain instances, estimated consumption did not correspond to actual usage, resulting in inflated billing and a protracted grievance redressal process for consumers. The potential for human intervention within this system also raised concerns regarding transparency and irregularities. Taking notice of these issues, the Power Division, under the leadership of Federal Minister Sardar Awaish Ahmad Khan Leghari, has decided to digitize and automate the detection billing system to minimize human intervention and unnecessary discretionary powers. In this regard, directions have been issued to all distribution companies to incorporate necessary amendments into NEPRA’s Consumer Service Manual and undertake other relevant measures.

Under the new system, the detection billing and associated recovery processes will be monitored on a monthly basis to ensure the timely identification of over-billing and abnormal trends, enabling prompt corrective action. The Minister stated that the primary objective of the ongoing reforms in the power sector is to provide maximum convenience to consumers.

CDA, District Admin continue efforts to ensure smooth drainage in Islamabad

APP- ISLAMABAD: The Capital Development Authority (CDA), Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI) and district administration teams remained active in the field to ensure smooth drainage and the flow of rainwater during ongoing rains in the federal capital.

Officials said teams were continuously monitoring drains, underpasses, low-lying areas and other sensitive locations to prevent water accumulation and provide timely relief to citizens.

The relevant departments including CDA, MCI, district administration and emergency services, have been coordinating closely to deal with rain-related issues and ensure effective drainage at vulnerable points. Special teams have also been deployed to monitor waterways and drainage channels during the rainfall. Authorities said all necessary measures were being taken for the safety of the public and timely evacuation, if required. Citizens have been advised to contact Rescue 1122, Police 15 or CDA helpline 1334 in case of any emergency or rain-related problem.

Nations are not built by resources, but by consciousness and honest leadership, Muhammad Farooq Yasir

Islamabad (FIR Report)

Muhammad Farooq Yasir, founder and chief of Awami Tehreek-e-Nijat, has said that nations are built not only by resources but by consciousness, unity and sincere and honest leadership. To get the country out of the current crises, the people must get out of the politics of division and choose competent, honest and patriotic leadership. Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club, Islamabad, Muhammad Farooq Yasir said that unity is the backbone for the development of any society, while if the leadership is in the hands of honest, sincere and competent people, the path to development can be paved despite difficulties. He criticized the current political situation and said that there are a majority of people in politics who enter politics for personal interests and wealth creation instead of serving the public. Instead of the leadership and workers of political parties criticizing each other and their opponents, the focus should be on public issues. Muhammad Farooq Yasir said that the purpose of the legislation made over the past several decades has been to protect the interests of the political elite or their families, while not enough attention has been paid to providing real relief to the people and making long-term policies to strengthen the country. Terming education as a basic need for national development, he said that countries



that invested in their human resources have achieved rapid development. In Pakistan too, the education system must be prioritized and improved, because only a conscious and educated nation can lead the country on the path of development. He said that the people of Pakistan are facing inflation, unemployment, poverty and other problems, while the burden of debt on the country is constantly increasing. If the people want the situation to change, they will have to take two basic steps, one is to unite by eliminating each other’s differences and the other is to bring forward sincere, honest and competent leadership. He said that the people often give a chance to another after the poor performance of one political representative and in the same way they keep revolving around the same people again and again. The need is to elect such people who truly have the passion for public service and national development. Muhammad Farooq Yasir said that there are good, sincere and honest people in every region and every

class who want to work for the country, the people should encourage such people and give them a chance to come forward. Talking about the army, the head of the Awami Tehreek-e-Nijat said that he loves the Pakistan Army and considers its role important in defending the country. He said that the army is the protector of the country, however, its role in political matters should be within the scope of constitutional and national interest. He said that if politicians fail to solve public problems and take the country forward, then national institutions should play their constitutional role and contribute to the stability of the country. Muhammad Farooq Yasir said that the name “Nijat” has been chosen thoughtfully because the people want relief from inflation, unemployment, unrest, crime and other problems. The aim of the Awami Tehreek-e-Nijat is to struggle against these problems and serve the people. The main objective of the party is not to oppose any specific political party but to solve public problems and the development of the country. If given power and a public mandate, the movement will take practical steps to solve public problems. He expressed his determination that if the Awami Tehreek-e-Nijat gets a chance, practical steps will be taken for the development of the country, the prosperity of the people and the solution of basic problems and this will be proved by practical performance rather than words.



Students of a local private school paint pictures themed on Defence Day ahead of September 6.

OGDC announces financial results for Year Ended June 30

APP- ISLAMABAD: OGDC recorded net sales revenue of Rs 449.191 billion and its highest-ever profit after tax of Rs 242.374 billion, representing an increase of 43% over the preceding year. Earnings per share (EPS) increased to Rs 56.35 from Rs 39.50 last year.

This was disclosed during the Board of Directors of Oil & Gas Development Company Limited (OGDC) held on Friday.

The financial results for the financial year ended June 30, 2026 were announced in the meeting.

The Board declared a final cash dividend of Rs 6.00 per share (60%), the highest-ever quarterly dividend in the Company’s history. This is in addition to interim dividends of Rs 11.00 per share already paid, taking the total payout for the year to Rs 17.00 per share (170%)—the highest-ever annual dividend declared by

the Company.

During the year, OGDC contributed Rs 187 billion to the national exchequer through corporate tax, dividends, royalties and other government levies.

The Company’s oil and gas production also generated foreign exchange savings of US\$ 3.31 billion through import substitution. Improved recoveries resulted in an overall collection rate of 107%, with Rs 577 billion collected during the year. The Company’s share price appreciated by 52% during the fiscal year, outperforming the 44% increase in the KSE-100 Index. OGDC’s market capitalization reached approximately Rs 1.44 trillion as of June 30, 2026, reinforcing its position as the largest listed company in Pakistan.

OGDC delivered significant exploration and drilling achievements during the year. The Company made

nine oil and gas discoveries, adding 120 MMBOE of 2P reserves and achieving a reserves replacement ratio of 236%, the highest in its history. It spudded 23 wells and drilled 58,333 metres—the highest levels recorded in the last five years—while securing interests in 15 additional exploration blocks.

Average daily net saleable production stood at 32,861 barrels of crude oil, 667 MMcf of gas and 670 tons of LPG, representing year-on-year increases of 6.3%, 2.3% and 4.4%, respectively, despite continued production curtailments.

Amid the regional energy security situation, OGDC successfully ramped up production to help mitigate the Country’s energy demand-supply gap, with gross crude oil production surpassing 40,000 barrels per day in April 2026, for the first time in 27 quarters.

FBR Small Traders Scheme Discussed with Jhang Business Community



Jhang (FIR Report)

Regarding the Federal Board of Revenue’s (FBR) Small Traders Scheme was held at the Tax House Jhang. The meeting was hosted by Commissioner Inland Revenue Jhang Zone, Nair Mahmood, and Additional Commissioner Inland Revenue, Syed Hassan Sardar.

Representatives of the Jhang Traders Association, Jhang Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries Jhang participated in the meeting in large numbers.

During the meeting, the key features and objectives of the FBR’s Small Traders Scheme were discussed in detail, along with the facili-

tation measures and incentives available for small businesses.

The meeting provided a constructive platform for meaningful interaction between tax authorities and representatives of the local business community. The primary focus was on enhancing awareness, promoting mutual cooperation, and facilitating ease of doing business for the

ISPR Internship Programme 2026 students visit PMA

APP- RAWALPINDI: As part of their study tour, participants of the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) Internship Programme 2026 visited the Pakistan Military Academy (PMA) Kakul, where they were given an opportunity to gain first-hand insight into the training and professional development of future officers.

During the visit, the interns witnessed the cadets’ parade and observed various training activities conducted at the academy. They were also briefed about the functioning of different departments and the comprehensive educational and professional training imparted to cadets.

An interactive session was also arranged with the Commandant of Pakistan Military Academy Kakul,

providing the students an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussion and gain a deeper understanding of the academy’s role and training framework.

The interns further interacted with male and female cadets and exchanged views on different aspects of their routine, training, education and overall development.

Reflecting on their experience, the students described the visit to PMA Kakul as highly informative and memorable. They particularly appreciated the opportunity to witness first-hand the rigorous education, training, discipline and professional grooming that prepare cadets for their future responsibilities as military officers.



پاکستان میں گرفتار ہونے والے
انڈین پائلٹ ابھینندن فضا ئیہ چھوڑ کر
نجی ایئر لائن میں شامل

’مگ-21 سے اے ٹی آر تک، یہ ایک غیر معمولی سفر ہے‘

پاکستان اور انڈیا کے درمیان فروری 2019 کی فضائی جھڑپ کے بعد جنگی قیدی بننے والے انڈین ایئر فورس کے سابق گروپ کیپٹن ابھینندن ورتمان نے فوجی خدمات سے قبل از وقت ریٹائرمنٹ حاصل کر لی ہے

انڈین خبر رساں ایجنسی پریس ٹرسٹ آف انڈیا (پی ٹی آئی) کے مطابق، ویرچو
(انڈیا کا تیسرا سب سے بڑا فوجی اعزاز) سے نوازے گئے فائٹنگ ایئر کمانڈر نے
31 مارچ 2026 کو انڈین ایئر فورس سے علیحدگی اختیار کی تھی اور بعد ازاں گذشتہ ماہ
علاقائی فضائی کمپنی فلائی 91 میں شمولیت اختیار کر لی

اجبھینندن ورٹھمان نے بھی اس معاملے پر کوئی بیان جاری نہیں کیا۔ دوسری جانب، خبر رساں ادارے پی ٹی آئی کے مطابق فلائی 91 کے ایک ترجمان نے ملازمین سے متعلق معلومات فراہم کرنے سے انکار کرتے ہوئے اسے نجی معاملہ قرار دیا

اجبئندن پہلے فاسٹر پائلٹ نہیں ہیں جنھوں نے انڈین ایئر فورس چھوڑنے کے بعد کسی نجی فضائی کمپنی میں شمولیت اختیار کی ہو۔ ماہرین کے مطابق یہ ایک معمول کی بات ہے

انڈین ایئر فورس کے سابق ترجمان گروپ کیپٹن انوپم بینرجی نے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ انڈیا کی نجی ایئر لائنز میں کام کرنے والے تقریباً 30 فیصد پائلٹس یا ملازمین ایسے ہیں جو ماضی میں ایئر فورس کا حصہ رہ چکے ہیں

لیے براہ راست کسی شخص کی ایئر لائن شہریت اختیار کرنا آسان نہیں ہوتا۔ طوعاً و خیاراً چھوڑنے والے پائلٹس کو ایئر لائن ایشی کے شعبے میں آنے سے متعدد اشتقاقی اور قانونی تقاضے کرنے کا پڑتا ہے، جن میں مختلف اداروں سے عدم اعتراض کا سرٹیفکیٹ (بین الاقوامی) حاصل کرنا بھی شامل ہے۔

فوجی پائلٹس مختلف طریقوں سے ایئر لائن ایئر فورس سے علیحدگی اختیار کر سکتے ہیں۔ شاتر سروس کمیشن کے افسران اپنی پندرہ مدت ملازمت مکمل ہونے پر ایسا کر سکتے ہیں، جبکہ پرامنٹ کمیشن والے افسران قبل از وقت ریٹائرمنٹ لے کر یا پینشن کے لیے درکار سروس کی مدت مکمل کرنے کے بعد

ایئر فورس چھوڑ سکتے ہیں۔ ایسے تمام معاملات میں ایئر فورس ہیڈ کوارٹرز اور وزارت دفاع کی باضابطہ منظوری اور این اوی ضروری ہوتے ہیں۔

میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق ایجنٹین نے اپنی فوجی خدمات مکمل کرنے کے بعد وزارت دفاع سے مطلوبہ این اوی حاصل کیا اور بعد ازاں خلائی 91 میں

شہریت اختیار کر لی۔

ایجنٹین ورتھان کا نام فروری 2019 میں اس وقت عوامی کارڈ سرکار تھا جب بالاکوٹ حملے کے بعد پاکستان اور انڈیا کے درمیان کشیدگی کے دوران لائن آف کنٹرول کے قریب فضائی معرکہ آرائی ہوئی تھی۔

ایجنٹین کو تیسرے بڑے فوجی

ایف آئی آر رپورٹ

پاکستان اور انڈیا کے درمیان
فروری 2019 کی فضائی جھڑپ کے بعد
جنگی قیدی بننے والے انڈین ایئر فورس
کے سابق گروپ کیپٹن اجینیندرن رتھمان
نے فوجی خدمات سے قبل از وقت
ریٹائرمنٹ حاصل کر لی ہے۔

انڈین خبر رساں ایجنسی پریس ٹرسٹ آف انڈیا (پی ٹی آئی) کے مطابق، ویرچوئل (انڈیا) کا تیسرا سب سے بڑا فوجی اعزاز (نوازے گئے فائبر پائلٹ ایچینینون نے 31 مارچ 2026 کو انڈین ایئر فورس سے علیحدگی اختیار کر لی تھی اور بعد ازاں گذشتہ ماہ علاقائی فضائی سکیننگ فلائی 91 میں شمولیت اختیار کر لی۔

وزارت دفاع کے ایک عہدیدار نے بات کرتے ہوئے تقدیق کر کے کہ ایجنڈنڈا ائیر فورس سے سبکدوش ہو چکے ہیں۔ تاہم، انھوں نے اس بات پر کوئی تبصرہ نہیں کیا کہ آیا ایجنڈنڈا کبھی مکینفی سے وابستہ ہوئے ہیں یا نہیں۔

ایجنڈنڈا ورتھان نے بھی اس معاملے پر کوئی بیان جاری نہیں کیا۔ دوسری جانب، خبر رساں ادارے نے ٹی آئی کے مطابق فلائی 91 کے ایک ترجمان نے ملازمین سے متعلق معلومات فراہم کرنے سے انکار کرتے ہوئے اسے نجی معاملہ قرار دیا۔

واضح رہے کہ فلائی 91 نے مارچ 2024 میں اپنی پروازوں کا آغاز کیا تھا۔ کمپنی اس وقت گوا اور حیدرآباد کے درمیان علاقائی روٹ پر چھ طیاروں کے بیڑے کے ساتھ خدمات انجام دے رہی ہے۔

ابھینندن پہلے فائٹر پائلٹ نہیں ہیں جنھوں نے انڈین ایئر فورس چھوڑنے کے بعد کسی نجی فضائی کمپنی میں شمولیت اختیار کی ہو۔ ماہرین کے مطابق یہ ایک معمول کی بات ہے۔

انڈین ایئر فورس کے سابق
ترجمان گروپ کیپٹن انوپم بیسجی
نے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ انڈیا کی فوجی
ایئر لائنز میں کام کرنے والے تقریباً 30
فیصد پائلٹس یا ملازمین ایسے ہیں جو خاصی
میں ایئر فورس کا حصہ رہ چکے ہیں۔

ان کے مطابق فوجی خدمات جاری رکھنا یا قبل از وقت ریٹائرمنٹ لینا ایک ذاتی فیصلہ ہوتا ہے۔ انھوں نے کہا کہ ایجنڈنڈن پہلے اعزاز یافتہ فوجی نہیں ہیں جنھوں نے ایسا کیا ہو۔ ان سے قبل کارگل جنگ میں نمایاں کردار ادا کرنے والے گروپ کی کئی بھیجی تھیں۔ انہیں انجی ایئر لائن سے وابستہ ہو چکے ہیں۔ گروپ کی کئی بیٹری خود بھی قبل از وقت ریٹائرمنٹ لینے کے بعد انجی کی کئی میں شامل ہوئے تھے اور ان کے پاس کرشل طیارہ اڑانے کا لائسنس بھی موجود ہے۔

جب ان سے قبل از وقت یا رضا کارانہ ریٹائرمنٹ لینے کی وجوہات کے بارے میں پوچھا گیا تو انھوں نے کہا کہ ایک مدت کے بعد فوج میں ترقی کے اتنے مواقع نہیں رہتے، جتنے کہ نجی سیکٹر میں ہیں اور فوج کے مقابلے پر نجی شعبہ زیادہ نفع بخش ہے۔



عزیز سے سوا زے ہوئے انڈین حکومت نے دعویٰ کیا تھا کہ معرکے کے دوران ایجنینڈہ نے غیر معمولی جرات اور پیشہ ورانہ مہارت کا مظاہرہ کیا۔

دسمبر 2019 میں جاری کئے گئے سرکاری رپورٹ تقریبی نوٹ میں کہا گیا تھا کہ ایجنینڈہ نے عدوی اور تکنیکی برتری رکھنے والے تحریف خیلوں کا بے خوفی سے مقابلہ کیا اور اپنی جارحانہ فضا کی حکمت عملی سے دشمن کو الجھن میں ڈال دیا۔

یاد رہے کہ فروری 2019 میں اپنا پہلا فائر ہندو تباہ ہونے کے بعد ایجنینڈہ ریشورٹ کے ذریعے پاکستان کے زیرِ قبضہ کشمیر میں اترے تھے، جس کے بعد انھیں حراست میں لیا گیا تھا۔ بعد ازاں تقریباً 60 بجے انھوں نے پاکستانی حکام نے ’نفاذ کی مگر نہ کے اقدام کے طور پر‘ پھر انڈیا کے حوالے کر دیا تھا۔

چینی سے تعلق رکھنے والے ایجنینڈہ نے 2004 میں انڈین ایئر فورس میں بطور فائر پائلٹ شمولیت اختیار کی تھی۔ فضا نیٹ کے ان کا فائنانس تعلیق بھی گہرا ہے۔ ان کے والد ایئر رائل سمبھائی اور رحمان انڈین ایئر فورس کے سینئر افسر رہ چکے ہیں، جبکہ ان کی بیوی بھی فضا نیٹ سے وابستہ رہی ہیں۔

ایجنینڈہ کے والد نے معروف جمل

Arsenal brace for Chelsea test



SPORTS DESK, LONDON: Something has to give when Arsenal host Chelsea in the Premier League this weekend, with both teams putting their 100 percent records on the line, while Tottenham are desperate to stop the rot.

Defending champions Arsenal and Xabi Alonso's Chelsea are among four sides to have won their first two league games this season, along with Manchester City and newly-promoted Hull. Spurs are bottom of the table as they prepare to face Nottingham Forest while new Liverpool boss Andoni Iraola is still seeking his first win.

AFP Sport looks at three talking points ahead of the action:

Arsenal steel v Chelsea flair

Arsenal have started their Premier League title defence as they finished last

season -- looking impenetrable.

Last week's 1-0 win at Aston Villa, following their opening 3-0 victory over Coventry, was a sixth clean sheet in seven league matches.

Another bonus for manager Mikel Arteta is the form of England winger Bukayo Saka, who has scored twice already following an injury-disrupted 2025/26 campaign.

Chelsea have launched the Xabi Alonso era with three wins in all competitions, looking dangerous in attack but vulnerable at the back.

The club's new attacking trio of Joao Pedro, Cole Palmer and Morgan Rogers have scored five of the team's seven league goals in victories against Fulham and Brighton. But former Bayer Leverkusen and Real Madrid boss

Alonso will be keen to tighten up his team's defence, which has conceded five goals in those games.

Recent history is against Chelsea, who are winless in nine Premier League games against Arsenal ahead of Sunday's clash at the Emirates.

Spurs' struggles

Roberto De Zerbi is certain Tottenham will avoid another embarrassing relegation battle despite a calamitous start to the season. The north London club, who have finished a lowly 17th in successive campaigns, lost their opener against Brentford 3-0 before a 2-0 defeat by Newcastle. The club spent more than £350 million (\$473 million) in the summer transfer window in an attempted reset, with a clutch of high-profile arrivals including Sandro Tonali, Mateus

Fernandes and Savio.

But there is scant evidence that things are improving as they prepare to face Nottingham Forest at the City Ground on Saturday -- a team that beat them twice last season.

De Zerbi, who arrived in late March, remains upbeat despite his team's woes. "After two defeats, maybe somebody can think it's the same story, the same as the last two seasons," he said.

"I have no doubt it's not like this. I think I can't change my opinion after two defeats. I have a big, big confidence in the qualities of my players."

Liverpool's Iraola eyes fresh start

New Liverpool boss Andoni Iraola is still seeking lift-off after frustrating draws against Newcastle and Nottingham Forest.

Hesson eyes Test team rebuild

SPORTS DESK, Pakistan interim Test coach Mike Hesson said the team's sweeping mid-series changes were far from ideal but believes a crop of fresh faces can



bring variety as they seek to avoid a series whitewash against England in the third and final Test.

Pakistan have brought seven players into their squad for the match at Edgbaston, including experienced batters Saim Ayub and Abdullah Fazal and five uncapped players, after losing the first two Tests heavily.

The new arrivals include spin-bowling all-rounder Arafat Minhas, left-arm seamer Mohammed Imran Junior, wicket-keeper Said Baig and all-rounders Mohammad Imran and Razaullah.

"I don't think anyone wants these to happen in the middle of a series, clearly not," Hesson told reporters on Friday. Hesson, who took charge of Pakistan's red-ball side following a major shake-up that also saw head coach Sarfaraz Ahmad and pace-bowling coach Umar Gul depart, said his immediate priority was to prepare the team for the final Test, which starts on September 9 at Birmingham.

India, Japan set for historic T20I

Sports Desk, The Japan Cricket Association (JCA) and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) confirmed that the match will be played at the Sano International Cricket Ground in Tochigi Prefecture.

The contest will serve as preparation for both teams ahead of the Asian Games 2026, where they will compete in the men's cricket tournament.

Japan will begin their campaign in the group stage, while India have been handed a direct place in the quarter-finals. India, who won the ICC Men's T20 World Cup earlier this year, will use the match as an important warm-up ahead of their bid to defend the gold medal they won in the men's cricket competition at the previous Asian Games.

For Japan, the fixture offers a rare opportunity to test themselves against one of the world's leading cricket teams and gain valuable experience ahead of the Asian Games.

Zverev survives US Open five-set epic



SPORTS DESK, NEW YORK: Top-seeded Alexander Zverev kept his bid for a first US Open title on track with a gritty five-set victory over Quentin Halys, staying the course as a spate of upsets rocked the men's draw on Thursday.

A trio of former women's champions -- Coco Gauff, Iga Swiatek and Naomi Osaka -- booked third-round berths, along with reigning Grand Slam champions Elena Rybakina and Mirra Andrejeva.

But men's third seed Felix Auger-Aliassime tumbled out, along with sixth-seeded Alex de Minaur and 13th-seeded Lorenzo Musetti.

Zverev labored until 2:15 am Friday on Arthur Ashe Stadium to shake off 52nd-ranked Frenchman Halys 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (7/3), 6-7 (3/7), 6-3.

The four-hour 33-minute marathon followed his wild first-round five-setter against 89th-ranked

Lorenzo Sonego that kept Zverev at it until shortly before 2 am on Wednesday.

"The performance was quite shit to be honest, but I won, that's the most important thing," Zverev said afterwards.

"Physically, I feel fine. I am proud, I think, to be physically quite strong. I just hope at some point I'll start playing better tennis.

"I'm winning ugly right now. It's also a skill to win ugly and when you're not playing great tennis. I think I've mastered that right now."

While Zverev survived, Auger-Aliassime fell 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 6-2, 6-2, to 50th-ranked Russian Karen Khachanov, pulled away relentlessly from the physically ailing Canadian, who said he was "dizzy and seeing spots. "I thought maybe it would pass, but it didn't," a dejected Auger-Aliassime said.

Khachanov took full advantage of 47 unforced errors, with eight double faults, from Auger-Aliassime, who struggled particularly on serve.

"I thought maybe he had some physical issues, it's part of our sport," Khachanov said. "From my side I tried to give my best performance, fighting, fighting."

De Minaur fell to Botic van de Zandschulp 6-4, 7-5, 6-2 while 123rd-ranked Australian Dane Sweeny shocked 13th seed Musetti 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 to reach the third round of a major for the first time.

It's not the first time Van de Zandschulp has sprung an upset at Flushing Meadows, where he shocked Carlos Alcaraz in the second round in 2024.

Meanwhile top women contenders marched on.

Fourth-seeded Gauff, the 2023 champion, thrilled the Ashe night crowd with a 6-4, 7-6 (7/5) victory over former world number two Paula Badosa of Spain. Swiatek sailed through with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Nadia Podoroska while Osaka survived a second-set swoon to beat Katerina Siniakova 6-2, 5-7, 6-1. Australian Open winner Rybakina, the world number two who is closing in on Aryna Sabalenka's number one ranking, saw off Spain's Jessica Bouzas Maneiro 6-2, 6-4, and Andrejeva rolled over Germany's Eva Lys 6-0, 6-2. Gauff, 22, had lost five of her eight prior meetings with Badosa, so she was ready when the Spaniard piled on the pressure in the second set, regaining a break to force the tiebreaker. "I knew she would raise her level. She's capable of blasting winners and blasting return winners," said Gauff, who was pleased she kept her composure.



Tang Qianhui (top)/Elena Pridankina compete during the women's doubles first round match between Tang Qianhui (China)/Elena Pridankina (Russia) and Katarzyna Piter (Poland)/Anna Siskova (the Czech Republic) at the 2026 US Open tennis championships in New York, the United States.

Saadi targets karate revival

SPORTS DESK, KARACHI: Former Asian champion Saadi Abbas has been appointed head coach of Pakistan's karate team for next year's South Asian Games and he plans to overhaul the national side's preparation for the biennial event.

Canada-based Saadi said his immediate priority would be to understand training programmes being followed by fighters representing various departments before putting in place a coordinated plan for the team.

The 14th South Asian Games will be held in Pakistan from April 3-11, giving Saadi about seven months to prepare the fighters for the event.

"It's a privilege for the people but for me it's work of more responsibility," Saadi told The Express Tribune



in an interview.

"I had a chat with the federation as we want to make the things organised properly."

Pakistan's karate fighters are currently preparing with their respective departments for a national event expected to be held in October. Saadi said he would first meet departmental coaches to assess the existing pro-

grammes and identify problems affecting the athletes.

"First of all I will hold a meeting with coaches of the departments and will discuss with them the onward strategy," he said. "It will help me know what type of training they are doing, problems they face and will try to resolve those issues."

Saadi said he would return to Pakistan in October to observe the selection process for the national team and, if a training camp continues, hopes to bring in a foreign physical coach with whom he has previously worked in Dubai and Canada.

He envisages a 20-day physical conditioning camp aimed at improving the fighters' fitness before moving into more specialised preparations.

FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup begins

SPORTS DESK, POLAND: Some 15,000 people are expected for the opening matches of the Under-20 Women's World Cup on Saturday, but it is not yet clear whether FIFA President Gianni Infantino will be among them.

The tournament, which runs until September 27 in Poland, is the first major FIFA competition that could have been affected by the governance standoff that followed Infantino's proposal to sell a stake in the World Cup to private investors.

Infantino abandoned the proposal on July 31 after fierce opposition from UEFA and other stakeholders.

The FIFA Forward Enterprise (FFE) plan envisaged transferring commercial rights linked to FIFA competitions, including the men's and women's World Cups and Club World Cup, into a new subsidiary, with outside investors paying about \$4.2 billion for a stake that valued the business at around \$20 billion.

The 56-year-old Swiss administrator has since faced calls to resign from UEFA, the AFC and CONCACAF, although he has announced he will seek a fourth term at the FIFA Congress in March 2027.

No challenger has yet formally declared, but UEFA



has said it will work with other confederations to ensure member associations are offered a credible alternative.

The Under-20 Women's World Cup is an important development tournament in the women's game, with many of its players hoping eventually to feature at the senior Women's World Cup in Brazil next year.



Kim Ga Eun hits a return during the women's singles quarterfinal match between An Se Young of South Korea and Kim Ga Eun of South Korea at China Masters 2026 badminton tournament in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province,



Visitors take keen interest in artworks by artists during the group exhibition titled "Figure, Form & Field" at Gallery 6.

PMYP, Huawei Discuss Collaboration to Boost Digital Skills for Youth

APP- ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Huawei Pakistan, led by Ahmed Bilal Masud, CEO AI & Cloud, Huawei Pakistan Friday called on the Chairman, Prime Minister's Youth Program Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan to discuss the opportunities for collaboration under the Huawei Talent Ecosystem Program in Pakistan.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed avenues to further strengthen Pakistan's digital talent ecosystem by providing young people with access to advanced training, industry-relevant skills, and emerging technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Cloud Computing. The Chairman PMYP highlighted the government's commitment to equipping Pakistan's youth with future-ready skills and creating pathways for meaningful employment, entrepreneurship,



ship, freelancing, and participation in the global digital economy. He highly appreciated Huawei Pakistan's continued commitment to supporting Pakistan's youth

and contributing to the country's digital transformation through advanced technology training, skills development, and capacity building. He stated that Pakistan's

youth are the country's greatest asset and that equipping them with cutting-edge digital skills is essential for building a competitive knowledge economy.

He emphasized that partnerships with leading technology companies such as Huawei can help bridge the digital skills gap, expand access to quality training, and connect young Pakistanis with emerging opportunities in the technology sector.

He particularly appreciated Huawei's efforts to provide young Pakistanis with access to advanced technologies, professional certifications, and industry-relevant skills. The Chairman further underscored the importance of expanding such initiatives across Pakistan, ensuring that youth from all regions have equitable access to modern technology training and internationally relevant skills.

Kamal pays surprise visit to PIMS Cardiac Centre

APP- ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for National Health Services Mustafa Kamal on Friday paid a surprise visit to the Cardiac Centre, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) and reviewed the healthcare services being provided to patients. During his visit, the minister also inspected the Electrophysiology Cath Lab at PIMS and sought details about the advanced cardiac facilities available at the centre. Mustafa Kamal interacted with patients and attendants and inquired about the difficulties they were facing in accessing treatment and other healthcare services. He asked the hospital administration about the availability and functioning of modern medical equipment and the steps being taken to ensure patients had access to advanced cardiac care. The minister also questioned officials about patient flow, waiting times and the overall arrangements at the facility, stressing the need to improve services and facilitate patients. He directed the relevant authorities to identify shortcomings affecting patients and take practical measures to address them. The minister said public hospitals must focus on providing timely, quality and accessible healthcare to patients, particularly those requiring specialized treatment. He also reviewed the performance of the Electrophysiology Cath Lab and discussed measures to further strengthen modern cardiac treatment facilities at PIMS.

Ulema Council Condemns Balochistan Attack, Disowns Terrorists

APP- ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Pakistan Ulema Council and Coordinator of the National Paigham-e-Aman Committee, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi has strongly condemned the recent attack on Pakistan's security personnel in Balochistan, saying the sacrifices of the country's armed forces and security institutions would ultimately pave the way for lasting peace and stability. Ashrafi said Pakistan's armed forces, police and security institutions were courageously performing their duties in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and other parts of the country to protect the nation, its people and its territorial integrity. He said according to Islamic teachings, protecting the country's borders and safeguarding the lives and security of people was a noble and sacred responsibility, and those undertaking this duty deserved the highest respect and recognition.

Condemning the killing of security personnel in Balochistan, Ashrafi said the attackers had not only targeted Pakistani security forces but had also allegedly desecrated and burned the bodies of the martyred personnel, describing the act as a grave violation of human dignity and Islamic values. He emphasized that Islam strictly prohibits the desecration of human bodies, including in circumstances of armed conflict. He referred to the Quranic account of the burial of a deceased person, saying it demonstrated the importance Islam attaches to preserving the dignity of the dead.

ایف آئی آر

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اسلام آباد ٹریفک پولیس کے زیر اہتمام

فوڈ پائنڈ ارائیڈرز کے لیے روڈ سیفٹی

آگاہی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد

ورکشاپ کا مقصد ارائیڈرز میں ٹریفک قوانین کی پابندی، محفوظ ڈرائیونگ اور روڈ سیفٹی سے متعلق شعور اجاگر کرنا تھا

چلائے وقت ٹریفک قوانین کی مکمل پابندی کریں اور باقاعدہ ڈرائیونگ لائسنس کا حصول یقینی بنائیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ لائسنس کے حصول کے سلسلے میں رائیدرز کو ممکن سہولت اور معاونت فراہم کی جائے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ محفوظ سفر، ذمہ دارانہ ڈرائیونگ اور ٹریفک قوانین کی پابندی ہر شہری کی مشترکہ ذمہ داری ہے۔ سڑکوں پر حادثات کی روک تھام اور شہریوں کے محفوظ سفر کو یقینی بنانے کے لیے

ٹریفک قوانین پر عملدرآمد ناگزیر ہے۔ اسلام آباد ٹریفک پولیس شہریوں میں ٹریفک قوانین اور روڈ سیفٹی سے متعلق شعور اجاگر کرنے کے لیے آگاہی سرگرمیوں کا سلسلہ جاری رکھے گی۔

ایف آئی آر رپورٹ

تفصیلات کے مطابق اسلام آباد ٹریفک پولیس کے زیر اہتمام فوڈ پائنڈ رائیدرز کے لیے روڈ سیفٹی آگاہی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد کیا گیا، جس کا مقصد رائیدرز میں ٹریفک قوانین کی پابندی، محفوظ ڈرائیونگ اور روڈ سیفٹی سے متعلق شعور اجاگر کرنا تھا۔ چیف ٹریفک آفیسر اسلام آباد کائنات انظر خان نے ورکشاپ میں خصوصی شرکت کی اور رائیدرز سے ملاقات کی۔ اس موقع پر شرکاء کو ٹریفک قوانین، محفوظ ڈرائیونگ کے اصولوں اور روڈ سیفٹی کے اہم اقدامات سے متعلق تفصیلی آگاہی فراہم کی گئی، جبکہ رائیدرز میں پمپلس بھی تقسیم کیے گئے۔ سی ٹی او اسلام آباد کائنات انظر خان نے رائیدرز کو ہدایت کی کہ وہ موٹر سائیکل