

Iran can ‘ground’ American forces anywhere: Iranian naval commander



MONITORING DESK, Iran's Navy commander Rear Admiral Shahram Irani said on Monday that the US was "deeply concerned about Iran's operational initiatives" and warned that Tehran's military could "ground" Washington's forces wherever necessary, state news agency IRNA reported.

According to IRNA, Irani stressed the need for the country's armed forces to remain ready for the "Khorramshahr ahead", recalling the defence of Khorramshahr during the Iran-Iraq War and referring to possible future battles.

"Our main mission is to prevent the

enemy from achieving its goals and objectives, and with God's help, we will succeed in this path, because the enemy's movements are monitored moment by moment," he added.

Iran's Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, Brigadier General Kioumars Heydari, said on Monday that Iran's enemies did not expect it to change the "equations of war and expand the battlefield to a regional level," Press TV reported.

"The Strait of Hormuz, one of the region's key strategic points, has the capacity to significantly influence

regional and global equations. By leveraging its strategic capabilities, the Islamic Republic of Iran was able to have a significant impact on the world's economic equations," Heydari was quoted as saying. Saudi Aramco's Jazan oil refinery was reportedly attacked on Monday, and the damage was being assessed, Reuters reported, citing The Financial Times, which cited two people with knowledge of the matter. Earlier, the United Arab Emirates is building alternative routes for its energy exports and trade to ensure they are not "held hostage" by the ongoing war, UAE

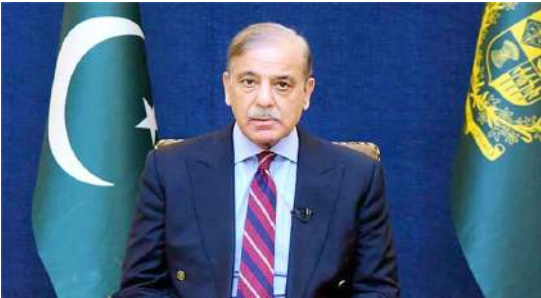
Presidential Adviser Anwar Gargash said.

"Our energy exports will not be held hostage, nor will our trade and economic activity," Gargash told the Hili Forum in Abu Dhabi.

While acknowledging that relations with Iran could eventually recover, Gargash warned that rebuilding trust after the attacks could take decades. He also criticised Gulf Arab states for failing to mount a coordinated response to Iran, saying they had been unable to translate shared concerns into a unified strategy.

PM links PAF's 1965 heroics to Marka-e-Haq, praises its combat excellence

STAFF REPORT, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday hailed the Pakistan Air Force's (PAF) decades-long record of professionalism and sacrifice, saying the force had repeatedly risen to the challenge of defending Pakistan's aerial frontiers during times of



conflict. In a message marking Pakistan Air Force Day, observed on September 7, Shehbaz said the PAF had displayed "professional capability, prowess and dominance in Aerial Conflicts" over the decades.

"This distinguished organisation has a proud history of sacrifice, valour as well as professionalism and always responded to the nation's call with profound courage," he said. Recalling the September 1965 war, the prime minister said PAF aviators had demonstrated "passion and resolve" in safeguarding Pakistan's airspace and paid the ultimate price in defending the country.

"In September 1965, the passion and resolve of Pakistan Air Force aviators to safeguard the aerial frontiers of Pakistan duly rendered them victorious in the vastness of skies," Shehbaz said.

"They laid down their precious lives for the defence of the motherland. It is certainly a national honour to pay glowing tributes to Shuhada for their supreme sacrifices," he added. Pakistan marks Air Force Day on September 7 each year to commemorate the PAF's role in the 1965 war. The day is observed alongside Defence and Martyrs' Day commemorations recalling the military conflict between Pakistan and India.

The prime minister also highlighted the PAF's role in Marka-e-Haq, referring to the conflict with India that lasted from April 22 to May 10, 2025. The PAF played a central role in Pakistan's military response during the confrontation, including the use of integrated multi-domain capabilities.

PTI's Barrister Gohar warns against dividing provinces without broad public consensus

STAFF REPORT, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan on Monday warned that any attempt to divide Sindh and other provinces without the consent of the people would weaken the federation, urging political forces to avoid taking decisions on the creation of new provinces in haste.

Speaking to reporters outside the Supreme Court of Pakistan in Islamabad, Gohar warned against bringing in controversial legislation, adding, "If you divide Sindh without the consent of its people and its representatives, you will weaken the federation."

While contending that the issue of creating further administrative units should be deeply deliberated upon and consensus should be built, Gohar underscored that if the government indulged in carving out provinces from Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) without the consent of its residents and representatives, "they will walk from one trouble into another."

"Such experiments should not be carried out in the country," he said, adding that the issue of new provinces should be debated within a commission and then



taken up by the new parliament that comes to power.

The PTI chairman called for a consultative process similar to the one followed during the passage of the 18th Amendment.

He warned that rushing into the division sans consensus would undermine the unity of the federation. Barrister Gohar also criticised Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz over her recent remarks concerning terrorism and demanded an apology. "I condemn the statement of Punjab CM on terrorism," he said, adding that authorities traced terrorism back to India. "India and the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) were found guilty of terrorism in Pakistan," the PTI leader asserted. He lamented that Maryam's statement was prejudiced and did not reflect facts, and if anyone besides her had said it, a first information report would have been filed to hold that person accountable.

Speaking to the media, the PTI leader also asked CM Maryam to do away with point-scoring on a serious issue like terrorism. "Terrorism is an issue on which the national political leadership should adopt a serious approach," he cautioned.



Federal minister for National health services Mustafa Kamal addressing to public meeting during defense day at Koh-e-Noor Chowk

Pakistan rejects India's "baseless" assertions on IIOJK status

APP- ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Monday categorically rejected India's assertions regarding the status of Jammu and Kashmir, calling them baseless and contrary to internationally recognised facts. "India's unilateral actions and continued illegal occupation cannot alter the internationally recognised disputed status of Jammu and Kashmir," Foreign Office spokesperson Ambassador Sajjad Haider Khan said in a statement. He said that the Jammu and Kashmir dispute remained one of the oldest unre-

solved, internationally recognised disputes on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council, as the relevant UN resolutions stipulated that its final disposition must be made in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions and the will of the Kashmiri people, expressed through a free and impartial plebiscite under UN auspices. The spokesperson said that the official United Nations maps depicting Jammu and Kashmir as a disputed territory remained the only cartographic representation of its

current legal status.

"India's so-called official maps and unilateral claims of sovereignty have no bearing on the status of the disputed territory," he remarked. Spokesperson Khan also urged the international community to ensure that India immediately stops human rights violations in the IIOJK, and fulfils its commitment towards the realisation of the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people, in line with the relevant UNSC resolutions.

Zardari cuts short London visit amid new provinces debate

MONITORING DESK, LONDON: President Asif Ali Zardari is set to return to Pakistan on September 8 after cutting short his stay in the British capital, Geo News has learnt. Credible Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) sources said the president had initially planned to remain in London for another three to four days. However, he decided to return early to deal with the prevailing political situation and the growing debate over the creation of new provinces and administrative units. The debate intensified

after Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal proposed dividing the country into 12 to 15 provinces and called for a national political dialogue on restructuring Pakistan's administrative system. The PPP has strongly opposed any move to divide Sindh and maintains that no new province can be created without constitutional procedures, political consensus and public support. President Zardari arrived in London from Vienna on September 1 after spending five days in Austria on a private visit.



Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani in a meeting with Rameeza Majid Nizami, Publisher and Editor of Nawa-i-Waqt, Salman Masood, Editor of The Nation, and Aziz Alwi, Resident Editor of Nawa-i-Waqt, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Zariya Foundation Elects Abdullah President, Honors Welfare Volunteers

JHANG: (Bureau Report)

A private welfare organisation, Zariya Foundation, held a ceremony to honour its newly elected president, Abdullah, and recognise the contributions of its active members.

Appreciation certificates were distributed among members for their services to the foundation. The participants also discussed the organisation's upcoming welfare projects and future plans.

The ceremony was attended by Foundation Founder Tazzuz Kanwal, President-elect Abdullah, executive members Khushbakht, Amina Chaudhry, Ali Akbar, Nisha Amir, Iman Zahra, Sultan Tahir and Zain Masood, besides other members.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms Kanwal congratulated Mr Abdullah on his election and expressed hope



that the new leadership would work to make the foundation's welfare activities more effective and expand its efforts to support deserving people. The participants stressed the importance of collective efforts and a spirit of public service in bringing about positive change in society.

Mr Abdullah assured the gathering of his full cooperation in the foundation's welfare projects and

said he would discharge his responsibilities with sincerity, transparency and dedication.

The ceremony concluded with a discussion on various proposals aimed at expanding the foundation's welfare activities, broadening the scope of its upcoming projects and ensuring that assistance reached deserving people more effectively.

Overcharging in Gujranwala Medical College Teaching Hospital parking, action ordered against parking contractor



Gujranwala (Bureau Report)

According to details: On the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala Naveed Ahmed, Assistant Commissioner President Faisal Majeed conducted a surprise inspection of the parking lot of Gujranwala Medical College Teaching Hospital, where it was

revealed that more than the fixed fee was collected from motorcycles, rickshaws and vehicles.

The medical superintendent was directed to terminate the parking contract and register an FIR against the contractor for overcharging and public exploitation for charging more than the approved rates by the parking contractor. The Assistant

Commissioner directed the hospital administration to prominently display the approved parking rates and ensure strict implementation so that the citizens are not charged extra fees in any case.

Provision of facilities to the public at fixed rates and elimination of illegal charges are among the top priorities of the district administration.

The long-standing problems of thousands of employees of Habib Bank Limited should be taken immediately and their legitimate rights should be given to them. Iftikhar Khan

Lahore (Special Report)

An emergency meeting of All Pakistan Retired Clerical and Non-Clerical Staff employees of Habib Bank Limited was held at a private hotel, in which the issues of non-payment of pension and other benefits including the rights of retired employees were discussed in detail. The meeting was attended by Iftikhar Khan, Chairman Muhammad Khan, Muhammad Akram Shahzad, Muhammad Nawaz, Muhammad Zulfiqar, Irfan Haider, Shahzad Butt, Anwar Javed, Azeemullah, Mujahid Hussain, Maqsood Ahmed Jayala, Saeed Bukhari, Anwar Ali and other senior retired employees.

The participants of the meeting demanded that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, the Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, the President of Pakistan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan and Prince Rahim Hussaini Aga Khan take immediate notice of the long-standing problems of thousands of retired clerical and non-clerical employees of Habib Bank Limited, who are now also senior citizens, and ensure their legitimate rights.

The retired employees said that in various decisions of the Supreme Court regarding pension and other benefits of retired employees of National Bank, Allied Bank and PTCL, the principle has been recognized that the rules and regulations in force at the time of recruitment of an employee are a fundamental



part of his service rights, which cannot be changed later to the detriment of the employee.

They demanded that in the light of these principles, all employees of Habib Bank who were recruited during the government takeover of the bank and later retired after the privatization of the bank, should also be ordered to pay 70 percent of pension, group insurance, EOBI pension arrears and other due benefits.

The meeting also demanded that those retired employees who received lump sum pension or other benefits under administrative pressure, including employees taking VSS, widows and employees allegedly subjected to forced retirement, should also be provided with their legitimate rights under the rules in force at the time of their appointment and the Finance Bill 1977.

The participants said that the principle has also emerged in court decisions that if the facts and legal

grounds of a decision are equally applicable to other affected employees, they cannot be deprived of its benefits. The retired employees demanded that the authorities find a quick and fair solution to the matter so that the elderly and senior citizens can be protected from further hardships.

The participants of the meeting said that retired employees have spent their entire working life in the service of the institution, so in old age they should not have to go to offices and courts to get their legitimate rights. They said that "the right of the laborer should be paid before his sweat dries" and delay in justice is also tantamount to injustice. The retired employees demanded that the government and the Habib Bank management hold immediate talks on the matter and ensure that all the affected employees are paid their dues and benefits in accordance with the law and judicial principles.

CM Amjad Hussain Congratulates Akhtar Nashad on PPP Victory in Skardu By-Election

Gilgit (Bureau Report)

Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Amjad Hussain has congratulated Akhtar Nashad on the brilliant victory of the Pakistan Peoples Party in the by-elections of GBA 09 Skardu Constituency 3 and expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the proud people of the constitu-

ency. The Chief Minister has said that the people of Skardu Constituency 3 have once again expressed their complete trust in the PPP and proved that this area is a strong fortress of the PPP. He said while talking, "The people of Skardu had given this seat to the PPP earlier too, and today they have regained their snatched seat and

handed it over to the party."

Chief Minister Amjad Hussain assured the people that the government will use all resources for the development and development of Skardu Constituency 3, solve public problems, eliminate deprivations and improve the standard of living of the citizens and will live up to the trust of the people.

CM Amjad Hussain Hails PPP Victory in Skardu By-Election, Vows Development

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Grand operation of Environment Protection Force Gujranwala against illegal pyro plants in violation of High Court order



Gujranwala (Bureau Report)

According to the details: On the instructions of Commissioner Gujranwala Muhammad Ali and Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala Naveed Ahmed, on the instructions of Deputy Director Environment Gujranwala Engineer Muhammad Imran Mayo, Assistant Director Environment Naveed Ahmed along with the Environment Protection Force took action against the illegal pyro plant.

1 Rana Concept Peru Plant Santpura Sadhoki Tehsil Kamonki.
 2 Usman Jaffer Peru Plant Santpura Sadhoki Tehsil Kamonki,
 3 Adnan Jaffer Peru Plant Santpura Sadhoki Tehsil Kamonki,
 4 Muhammad Khan Peru Plant Santpura Sadhoki.

These four Peru plants will be sealed and FIR will be registered against the owners.

The Deputy Director of Environment made it clear to the owners of these illegal plants that

this illegal business will not be allowed to run in any case, the factory that works according to the S.O.P by installing the plant, we will not seal the factory, however, the factory that does not comply with the S.O.P without the plant, we will first give a warning to him, then we will seal it, so I ask all the factories with furnaces to install all the plants in it. will not be given, nor will any recommendation be accepted, he added that I will clean the air of Gujranwala from pollution.

Attock Gymkhana: ADC Anil Saeed Orders Better Facilities, Clear Rules and Service Rates

Staff Report, Attock:

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Municipal Services, Attock, Anil Saeed presided over an important meeting related to Attock Gymkhana at the Deputy Commissioner's Office. The meeting was attended by officers of the concerned departments and members of Attock Gymkhana.

During the meeting, a detailed review was taken of the administrative affairs of Attock Gymkhana, facilities provided to the members, dress code, rates of various services and other necessary matters. On this occasion, various issues regarding the provision of better and quality facilities to the members and quality facilities to the members and citizens of Attock Gymkhana were also discussed. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Municipal Services, Anil Saeed, while issuing instructions to the concerned officers, said that all the necessary arrangements should be made better and more



organized in Attock Gymkhana so that the best facilities can be provided to the members. He said that the gymkhana's dress code, service rates and other rules and regulations should be formulated in a clear and effective manner. He further directed that the needs and facilities of the members of Attock Gymkhana should be taken into consideration on a priority basis and a coordinated

strategy should be adopted to improve the administrative affairs of the institution. In the meeting, the participants also presented their suggestions regarding the improvement of Attock Gymkhana and provision of modern and quality facilities to the members, while it was agreed to resolve the relevant issues as soon as possible through mutual consultation.

Japan Extends Rs. 2.6 Billion Yen Grant for Flood Protection in Sindh

STAFF REPORT, ISLAMABAD: Japan has extended grant assistance of 2.6 billion Japanese yen to Pakistan for strengthening flood protection infrastructure along the Indus River in Sindh, with the project expected to safeguard around 790,000 people in the Larkana region.

Notes to the grant were signed and exchanged on Monday between Japanese Ambassador to Pakistan Akamatsu Shuichi and Economic Affairs Secretary Muhammad Humair Karim. The Grant Agreement was subsequently signed by JICA Pakistan Senior Representative Sugawara Takayuki and Additional Secretary Economic Affairs Sabina Qureshi.

The project will reinforce vulnerable sections of the river dike and undertake riverbank erosion protection works using a durable concrete-based construction method, aimed at reducing the risk of breaches and associated economic losses.



Japan said the initiative draws on its disaster-prevention expertise and will help protect communities, agricultural land and critical infrastructure from future floods.

Ambassador Akamatsu said Japan remained committed to supporting

Pakistan's recovery and building a more resilient society capable of confronting growing climate-related disaster risks.

JICA's Sugawara said the project goes beyond strengthening dikes, focusing on prote



PAKISTAN CRICKET BOARD

ایف آئی آر پورٹ



نظم و ضبط کی خلاف ورزی پر پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ کی انکوائری: 'لگتا ہے کہ میچز ہارنے کا غصہ ہے'

پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ کے ترجمان عامر میر کی جانب سے 'ایکس' پر جاری کیے گئے بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پی سی بی ایسے معاملات کو اپنے طریقہ کار کے مطابق نمٹاتا ہے۔

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پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ کی جانب سے یہ بیان ایسے وقت میں سامنے آیا ہے جب چند روز سے پاکستان کے مختلف ذرائع ابلاغ پر یہ خبریں چل رہی تھیں کہ انگلیڈ کے خلاف سیریز کے دوران پی سی بی نے کچھ کھلاڑیوں کے موبائل فونز تحویل میں لیے ہیں۔

لاڈز ٹیسٹ میں شکست کے بعد پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ (پی سی بی) نے ایک غیر معمولی فیصلہ کیا تھا جس کی شاید کسی کو بھی توقع نہیں تھی

پہلے ٹیسٹ میں ٹیم کی کپتانی کرنے والے سلمان علی آغا سمیت سات کھلاڑیوں کو سیریز کے دوران پاکستان واپس بلا کر ان کی جگہ سات متبادل کھلاڑیوں کو انگلیڈ بھیجنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا تھا

سابق انگلش کپتان ناصر حسین، سٹیورٹ براڈ اور انڈین سپورٹس جرنلسٹس نے بھی پی سی بی کے اس اقدام پر حیرت کا اظہار کیا تھا

کوشش کرتے ہیں۔ بعض نے پلاسٹک کا بھی کھیلنے کی کوشش کی ہے۔

امام الحق کی انجری سے متعلق چیونیز کے پروگرام آج شاہزیب خانزادہ کے ساتھ گفتگو کرتے ہوئے پاکستانی ٹیم کے ڈائریکٹر ہائی پرفارمنس عاقب جاوید کا کہنا تھا کہ یہ یقیناً ایک بڑا سوالیہ نشان ہے اور ہمیں اس پر افسوس بھی ہے۔ ماضی میں ہم نے دیکھا ہے کہ کھلاڑی دھجی ضرور ہوتے ہیں، لیکن وہ پھر بھی میدان میں جانے کی کوشش کرتے ہیں۔ بعض نے پلاسٹک کا بھی کھیلنے کی کوشش کی ہے۔

ان کا یہ بھی کہنا تھا کہ لائنیں یہ تو نہیں کہہ سکتا کہ انجری جلی جلی، لیکن جتنی کرکٹ ہم نے کھیلی اور دیکھی ہے، اس کے مطابق صرف اس نوعیت کے عضلاتی کھینچاؤ کی وجہ سے مکمل طور پر بینک نہ کرنا غیر معمولی بات ہے۔

سابق چیئر مین پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ خالد محمود کہتے ہیں کہ کھلاڑیوں کے خلاف جو پرنٹو انکوائری ہو سکتی ہے اور نہ ہی سزا دی

جاسکتی ہے۔ اگر یہ الزام ہے کہ کھلاڑیوں نے اپنی 100 فیصد کارکردگی نہیں دکھائی تو یہ بتانا پڑے گا کہ آیا ان پر کچھ کنٹریکٹ کاغذات کی نوعیت بڑی ہو تو پھر کرکٹ بورڈ غیر جانبدار رویہ نہیں تشکیل دیتا ہے یا اگر بورڈ ضروری سمجھے تو بورڈ کے اندر ہی اس کی تحقیقات کروائی جاتی ہیں۔

سابق چیئر مین پی سی بی کا کہنا تھا کہ اگر دورے کے دوران کوئی کھلاڑی ڈسپلن کی خلاف ورزی کرتا ہے تو ٹیم مینیجر ہی معاملات سنبھال لیتا ہے۔ اُن کے بقول اگر الزامات کی نوعیت بڑی ہو تو پھر کرکٹ بورڈ غیر جانبدار رویہ نہیں تشکیل دیتا ہے یا اگر بورڈ ضروری سمجھے تو بورڈ کے اندر ہی اس کی تحقیقات کروائی جاتی ہیں

سکتے ہیں جیسا کہ ترجمان پی سی بی نے ذکر کیا ہے کہ یہ اندرونی تادیبی کارروائی ہے یا اگر پی سی بی کی ضروری سمجھے تو ریٹائرڈ ججز پر مشتمل بینل تشکیل دیا جاتا ہے جو الزامات کی تحقیقات کرتا ہے۔ خیال رہے کہ پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ کی جانب سے ماضی میں بھی کھلاڑیوں کے خلاف ڈسپلن کی خلاف ورزیوں پر جرمانے اور سزائیں سنائی جاتی رہی ہیں۔ سنہ 2020 میں پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ نے پاکستان سپر لیگ کے آغاز کے موقع پر عمر اکمل کو شکوکہ افراہ سے روباہ کے الزام پر مغل کر دیا تھا۔ بعد ازاں کرکٹ بورڈ کے ڈپٹی چیئر مین نے ان پر تین برس کے لیے کرکٹ سے متعلق کسی بھی سرگرمی میں حصہ لینے پر پابندی لگا دی تھی۔

پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ (پی سی بی) نے اعلان کیا ہے کہ نظم و ضبط اور رویے سے متعلق میڈیا رپورٹس کے پیش نظر ایک اندرونی تادیبی تحقیقات کا آغاز کیا گیا ہے جن کا فی الحال اندرونی طور پر جائزہ لیا جا رہا ہے۔ پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ کے ترجمان عامر میر کی جانب سے 'ایکس' پر جاری کیے گئے بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پی سی بی ایسے معاملات کو اپنے طریقہ کار کے مطابق نمٹاتا ہے۔

ان کا کہنا تھا کہ یہ عمل پی سی بی کے ضوابط کے تحت انجام دیا جا رہا ہے جس میں اس بات کو یقینی بنایا جا رہا ہے کہ تمام متعلقہ افراد کا موقف مناسب طور پر مد نظر رکھا جائے۔ بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ اس مرحلے پر مختلف پلیٹ فارمز پر گردش کرنے والی قیاس آرائیوں پر بی بی سی رپورٹس یا غیر مصدقہ دعوؤں، خاص طور پر وہ جو بیرونی مخالف ذرائع سے سامنے آئے ہوں کو قابل اعتبار نہیں سمجھا جاتا چاہیے۔

بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پی سی بی اس وقت مزید کوئی تبصرہ نہیں کرے گا۔ بورڈ سکیک ہولڈرز اور عوام کو مشورہ دیتا ہے کہ وہ پی سی بی کے سرکاری بیانات پر ہی انحصار کریں۔

پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ کی جانب سے یہ بیان ایسے وقت میں سامنے آیا ہے جب چند روز سے پاکستان کے مختلف ذرائع ابلاغ پر یہ خبریں چل رہی تھیں کہ انگلیڈ کے خلاف سیریز کے دوران پی سی بی نے کچھ کھلاڑیوں کے موبائل فونز تحویل میں لیے ہیں۔

بورڈ نے اپنے اعلیٰ عہدے میں یہ نہیں بتایا کہ اندرونی تادیبی تحقیقات کس کے خلاف شروع کی گئی ہیں اور نہ ہی کھلاڑیوں کے موبائل فونز قبضے میں لینے کی تصدیق کی گئی ہے۔ خیال رہے کہ لاڈز ٹیسٹ میں شکست کے بعد پاکستان کرکٹ بورڈ (پی سی بی) نے ایک غیر معمولی فیصلہ کیا تھا جس کی شاید کسی کو بھی توقع نہیں تھی۔

پہلے ٹیسٹ میں ٹیم کی کپتانی کرنے والے سلمان علی آغا سمیت سات کھلاڑیوں کو سیریز کے دوران پاکستان واپس بلا کر ان کی جگہ سات متبادل کھلاڑیوں کو انگلیڈ بھیجنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا تھا۔ غریب سیریز کے بعد کپتان، کوچ یا کھلاڑیوں کو تبدیل کرنا پاکستان کرکٹ میں کوئی نئی بات نہیں ہے۔ لیکن سیریز ہارنے کے بعد اور آخری ٹیسٹ فتح سے پہلے جس میں بار بار جیت کا سیریز پر نہ کوئی اثر نہیں پڑے گا۔ ان تہلیلوں پر نہ صرف پاکستان کے سابق کرکٹرز بلکہ دنیا بھر میں اس پر حیرت کا اظہار کیا تھا۔

سابق انگلش کپتان ناصر حسین، سٹیورٹ براڈ اور انڈین سپورٹس جرنلسٹس نے بھی پی سی بی کے اس اقدام پر حیرت کا اظہار کیا تھا۔ اس دوران پاکستان کرکٹ ٹیم کے اوپر امام الحق کی انجری کا معاملہ بھی خبروں میں رہا تھا اور لاڈز ٹیسٹ کی دونوں انگلیڈ وہ بینک کے لیے نہیں آئے

NATO must be ready for key summit in pivotal year

LUKE COFFEY

The World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, last week highlighted an ongoing rift between the worldview of the US and that of its transatlantic partners in Europe. This time, the dispute centered on Greenland — specifically, America's desire for greater access to and control over the territory. While tensions were high at times, it was NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte who ultimately helped calm the situation and get transatlantic relations back on track.

Looking ahead, 2026 will be a pivotal year for NATO, with a major summit scheduled to take place less than six months from now in Ankara, Türkiye. To ensure the summit's success, policymakers must begin shaping the agenda immediately. While the meeting may seem far off, in terms of statecraft and diplomacy, six months is very little time at all. Aligning the US and its European partners more closely will require early preparation, sustained engagement and political will on both sides of the Atlantic. Getting the transatlantic relationship right carries sig-

nificant economic implications — not only for North America and Europe, but for the global economy as well. Together, the two account for nearly half of the world's gross domestic product. Europe and the US are each other's largest export markets and each is responsible for trillions of dollars of investment in the other's economy, supporting millions of jobs. When rifts emerge across the Atlantic, the consequences are felt well beyond security policy, with ripple effects across trade, investment and global growth. As the alliance heads toward the July summit, four major issues are likely to dominate discussions. Policymakers would be wise to begin laying the groundwork now to ensure the meeting delivers tangible results rather than political friction.

The first issue, unsurprisingly given the recent focus on Greenland, is Arctic security. Just as Donald Trump has done more than any other US president to push NATO members to increase their defense spending, he has also done more than any predecessor to force the alliance to take the Arctic seriously. Until recently, NATO avoided even mention-

ing the region in its official documents, largely due to internal disagreements among Arctic allies over what role the alliance should play there.

With growing competition in the High North and with Trump's renewed emphasis on Greenland's strategic importance, Arctic security has been pushed near the top of NATO's agenda for the first time. For this summer's summit to proceed smoothly, allies should expect concrete deliverables related to NATO's posture, presence and coordination in the Arctic.

The second issue likely to be raised concerns NATO's relationship with the broader region — a matter of particular importance to the host country, Türkiye. While Türkiye has been an integral part of transatlantic security since joining NATO in the 1950s, Ankara also places increasing emphasis on security issues in the Black Sea region and the Middle East. Notably, it was a Turkish initiative at the 2004 NATO Summit in Istanbul that led to the creation of the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, which formalized NATO's engagement with several

Gulf states. Since then, the framework has provided a useful platform for high-level dialogue, though it has produced relatively few tangible outcomes in terms of shared security. With the political momentum that comes from hosting the summit, NATO should seize the opportunity to revamp, or at least reenergize, the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative and strengthen its relationships with key Gulf partners.

The third issue, and one that will no doubt be a top priority for Trump, will be the health of the alliance's defense spending. Dating back to his first term in the White House, Trump has been among the most vocal US presidents in urging European allies to spend more on defense. At last year's summit in The Hague, NATO took a historic step by agreeing to aim for defense spending of 5 percent of gross domestic product. This is three percentage points higher than the long-standing 2 percent benchmark. While this goal is not expected to be met until the early 2030s, there is little doubt that Trump will be closely monitoring progress in the meantime.

At present, only a handful of allies, primarily the Baltic states and Poland, come even close to meeting the 5 percent target. If Trump succeeds in working with Congress to pass his proposed \$1.5 trillion defense budget, the US itself would reach that threshold. The faster European allies demonstrate meaningful progress toward this goal, the smoother alliance management is likely to be between the White House and European capitals. The final issue, though unlikely to receive much public attention, will be discussed intensively behind closed doors: the war in Ukraine. Trump has made slow but steady progress in pushing Russia and Ukraine toward negotiations and NATO's posture at the summit will depend heavily on how far diplomatic efforts have advanced by then. Trump has been clear that Ukrainian membership of NATO is off the table, meaning the alliance will need to find creative ways to remain engaged with Kyiv — strengthening cooperation and support without crossing political red lines set by Washington.

— Arab News

Netanyahu the biggest obstacle to Trump's Gaza plan

OSAMA AL-SHARIF

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was never on board when US President Donald Trump announced his 20-point Gaza peace plan, which led to the Oct. 10 ceasefire agreement. He has resisted pressure to honor Israel's commitments under phase one of the plan: allowing the unimpeded flow of humanitarian aid and stopping the killing of Palestinians in Gaza. More than 450 Palestinians, including women and children, have been killed since the ceasefire came into effect. And Israel has prevented the entry of the caravans and shelter needed to protect tens of thousands of displaced Gazans from the bitter cold that has swept the region for weeks. Infants have died of cold and exposure as a result.

Netanyahu was equally unhappy with Trump's idea of establishing a "Board of Peace" to oversee the implementation of his plan, including the naming of a Palestinian national committee to run the enclave and inviting international troops to serve as a stabilization force in Gaza.

When Trump unveiled the four-tier structure of his Board of Peace this month — with an executive committee, a Palestinian national committee, a US general to head the stabilization force and a high commissioner to liaise between the Palestinian technocratic body and the executive committee — Netanyahu found himself cornered. Trump had stripped him of leverage regarding the fate of the Palestinian enclave. The US president also announced it was time to move to the second phase of the plan, which would entail Israel's gradual withdrawal from Gaza, in addition to disarming Hamas.

But the real challenge for the Board of Peace will be forcing Netanyahu to yield and embrace the plan and its requirements fully and unconditionally. One litmus test is the opening of the Rafah border crossing. Trump sent his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, and his special envoy, Steve Witkoff, to Israel earlier this week to push this step forward. Netanyahu resisted, reiterating that for the crossing to open, Hamas must hand over the body of the last Israeli captive.

Within 24 hours, the Israeli military found the hostage's remains in an area under its control in Gaza. Netanyahu bowed — but not before setting new conditions. He would allow the Rafah crossing to open not for aid trucks, but only for pedestrians to travel between Gaza and

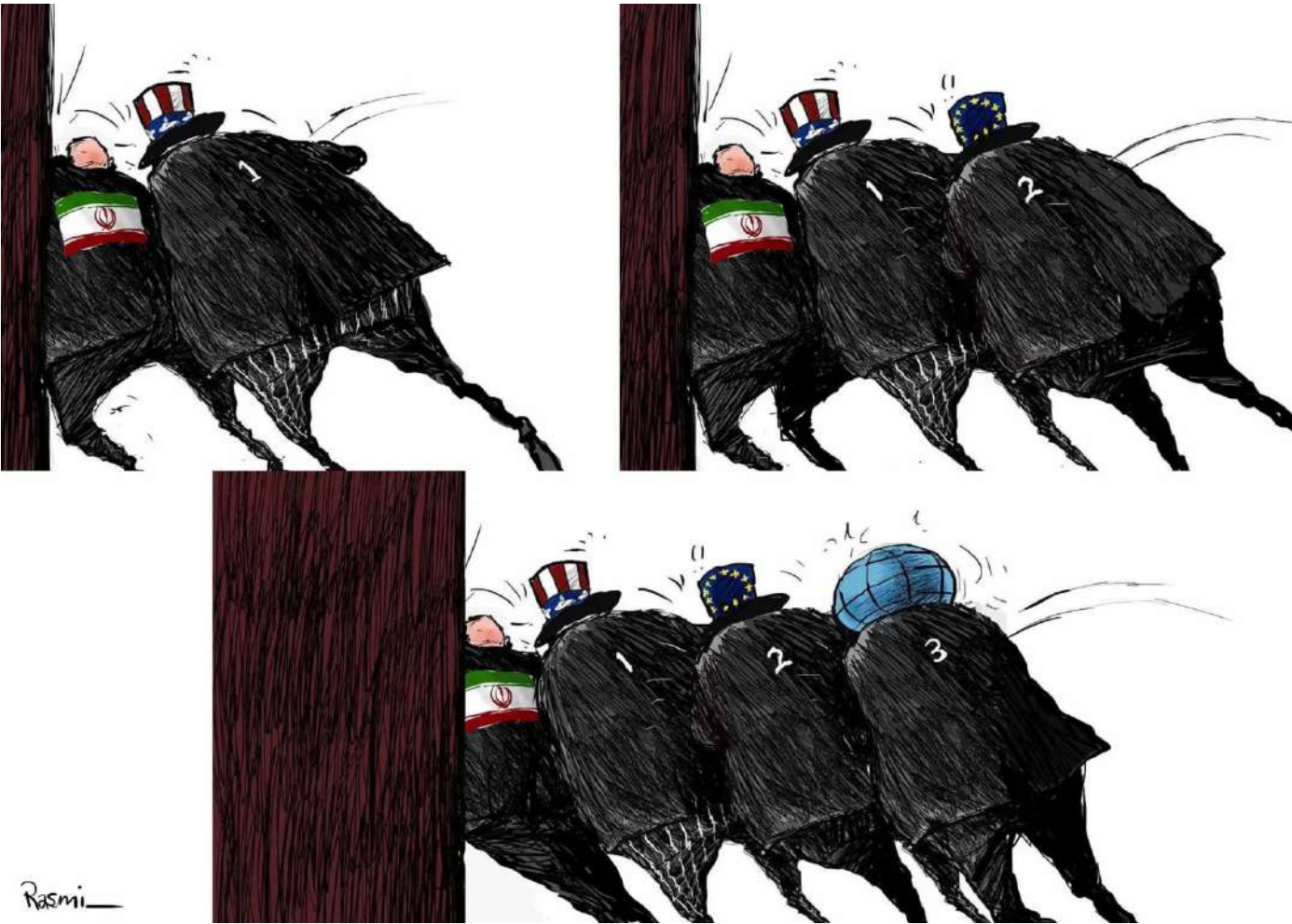
Egypt as part of a "limited reopening."

Meanwhile, Israel continues to refuse entry to the 15-member Palestinian committee tasked with assuming responsibilities in the beleaguered Strip.

Whatever the outcome of Kushner and Witkoff's trip to Israel, the general impression is that Netanyahu will continue fighting to have a final say on what happens next in Gaza. While the two US envoys met with Netanyahu, Israeli shelling killed at least three Palestinians in various parts of the Strip. The Israeli army has also continued expanding areas under its control beyond the so-called Yellow Line. It is believed to occupy nearly 60 percent of Gaza. The areas under its control have been flattened, while the army is digging deep trenches to prevent Palestinians from returning to what used to be their homes.

Trump's Board of Peace has sent tremors across the globe because it has been given a mandate that extends beyond Gaza. Most of America's Western allies have declined the invitation to join. The Arab and Muslim nations that have joined have done so after a careful assessment of the costs and benefits. Being on board regarding Gaza's future is better than opting out. Working with Trump and his aides from within far outweighs being locked out of the deliberations and discussions. The Palestinian Authority has not been represented at any level of Trump's plan and is unlikely to have a role in the near future, pending its much-touted reform, which is a red herring. As much as the PA needs genuine reform and accountability, Israel will never approve of a Palestinian body that seeks to fulfill the ambition of a two-state solution. Even so, Netanyahu's recent political maneuvers do not bode well for the Board of Peace and Trump's peace plan. He remains the biggest obstacle to ending the carnage, opening border crossings and allowing much-needed aid and supplies to enter freely. Ironically, Netanyahu and his far-right partners still espouse a plan to forcibly remove Gazans from the enclave, retain open-ended military control of the Strip and prevent reconstruction efforts. The opening of the Rafah crossing will put Trump's plan and his board to the ultimate test. Already, Netanyahu is seeking to derail that effort. He now plans to establish another crossing point, totally controlled by Israel, next to Rafah inside Gaza. Netanyahu is always planning ahead, working to impose new conditions that will keep him in the game.

— Arab News



Us ... after the Davos fog lifts

EYAD ABU SHAKRA

It is difficult for an analyst to come away with an accurate picture of the deliberations of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. With such events, it is very useful to understand the atmosphere, body language, implicit messages and positional "test signals." The stances expressed in speeches and discussions are carefully calibrated; they reflect participants' principles and vested interests. However, this task requires prudence that makes them easier to swallow and more readily accepted by the broader public. In fact, participants know their audience well and are aware of what is expected to be heard. Yet the more perceptive speakers understand that the message is stronger and more effective when it transcends narrow interests and impacts the wider sphere of interests. When a figure from the forum's elite, such as Larry Fink, chairman of the trillion-dollar asset management giant BlackRock, speaks of the challenges facing capitalism, he raises this issue out of concern for its survival in a changing world that can seem ungoverned at times. In other words, people like Fink feel that capitalism may sometimes need to be rescued from its own excesses in a world where technology threatens to remove constraints, remove the brakes and universalize unknowns.

According to Fink, this trajectory threatens the "legitimacy" of the global economic system. Here, the American news site Axios reported that Fink reminded his audience that economic prosperity is not confined to cumulative growth (in the sense of the size of a country's gross domestic product or the market capitalization of major corporations), but includes the breadth of the population that feels it, experiences it and builds its future upon it. On another front, the influential global billionaire predictably addressed the impact of artificial intelligence, explaining that it will negatively affect the fate of office and clerical jobs to the same extent that globalization negatively affected manual labor jobs. Accordingly, he stressed that this challenge must be seriously and directly addressed. From this perspective, the head of BlackRock called for greater engagement in intensive dialogue across the world: more listening and less lecturing. Against this deep realism, there were of course predictable excesses expressed in several economic and political quarters. As usual, the political spotlight focused on the positions of the US, which President Donald Trump conveyed in word and deed.

Trump arrived at Davos having just finished the "raid" on Venezuela that led to the removal of President Nicolas Maduro and amid his multi-pronged effort to capture the island of Greenland and remove it from

Europe's "embrace," and his project for the future of the Gaza Strip.

In this regard, it has become clear that the world is beginning to absorb the shock, adapting to an unfamiliar American leadership with "out-of-the-box" views that, since the end of the Cold War at least, had seemed unthinkable in the West. The rise of the Soviet Union as a global power at the end of the Second World War (on the ruins of Nazism, fascism and Japanese militarism) allowed for the emergence of a "global economic shift" following the success of the Maoist revolution in China.

Thus, the combined Soviet-Chinese effort, together with the emergence of a nonaligned Third World force outside the two major blocs (the capitalist West and the communist East), led to the growth of global "liberation" movements across Asia, Africa and the Americas. But the rules of the game changed with the end of the Cold War, the collapse of European communism and with it the fall of the Berlin Wall.

For a few decades, it seemed that a new world order had emerged from the "end of history" that Francis Fukuyama heralded, marked by the West's "victory," while laying the groundwork for the "clash of civilizations" between the West and the Islamic world that Samuel Huntington anticipated. Indeed, despite tremors here and there, the "new world order" appeared to be steadily consolidating. But four developments altered the trajectory. First, Russian President Vladimir Putin succeeded in preventing his country's collapse and launched a retaliatory counter-war against the West, beginning with his embrace of far-right extremist forces. In truth, Putin exposed the fragility of democracy and of the integration project of the "institutional state" in Western Europe, and then in the US itself. Second, China got back on its feet, successfully (so far) distracting the world from its strategic ambitions by appearing to focus on the economy, manufacturing and scientific research. Third, the exponential acceleration of the technological revolution, from communications and information technologies to AI, could change various formulas worldwide. Fourth, building on these three developments, came the change in patterns of thinking and the redefinition of priorities in the US through the nationalist, populist "Make America Great Again" current, under the political leadership of Trump and the ideological vision of figures like Steve Bannon. Under MAGA, the priorities shifted. The traditional enemy was no longer an enemy and the traditional ally was no longer an ally. The language of diplomacy was set aside, replaced by the language of imposition or threats. Long-term calculations were replaced by quick deals. In Davos, Trump confirmed this shift.

— Arab News

US-Europe rift serves neither, but is it inevitable?

YOSSI MEKELBERG

A rift between the US and Europe is quickly brewing. However, neither side can afford it or will benefit from it. Worse, this long-standing alliance now faces its severest test yet, which is bound to remain for the next three years. It is already leaving deep scars.

The security and prosperity of what is known as the West depend on close transatlantic relationships. When this alliance weakens, it only serves those the US and Europe perceive as their main rivals: China and Russia. One would not be surprised if the leaderships in Beijing and Moscow were rubbing their hands with glee at every spat between the Trump administration and America's NATO allies. The American administration's insistence on acquiring Greenland has proven to be, for the EU, the UK and Canada, the final straw. For them, this was a red line they could not afford to let Washington cross without mounting a challenge, as they did.

The strategic importance of Greenland — the world's largest island — is indisputable and it will only increase because of the unfortunate impact of climate change. Its strategic position between the US and Russia makes it a front-line area of growing importance as the ice sheets melt. Global warming is causing Greenland's ice sheet and the rest of the Arctic's sea ice to melt, opening new sea routes that will serve as an alternative to traditional, costly navigation through the Suez and Panama canals. Add to this Greenland's rich mineral and hydrocarbon deposits and the attraction of this massive island, despite its harsh weather, lack of infrastructure and remoteness, is turning it into the US' latest frontier.

Alas, the way President Donald Trump is going about it alienates his country's closest allies and does so needlessly. The idea of the American frontier underpins the country's historical westward expan-

sion, with European settlers moving from the original settlements along the Atlantic Coast toward the Pacific Coast. This was a combination of ideology and utilitarianism, eventually resulting, for instance, in the purchase of Alaska in 1867 for the modest sum of \$7.2 million (about \$150 million today).

Acquiring territories reflected the "manifest destiny" notion, coined by John L. O'Sullivan in 1845, that America had a special destiny to stretch across the continent. However, it was another US president, Woodrow Wilson, with his notable 14 points during the First World War, who made his country the champion of the right to self-determination — a position that now seems reversed by the current US administration.

Greenland, in Trump's thinking, epitomizes this. And it is no longer a fight between the so-called new world and the old world of colonial Europe, but a confrontation that undermines the closest of allies, which share similar security concerns and, at least until recently, similar values and respect for the norms of a rules-based world order.

Before Trump's arrival at the World Economic Forum in Davos, the fear was that the issue of Greenland was going to cause irreparable damage to the US' relationship with most of the other members of NATO, which believed that Trump would not climb down from his demand for American sovereignty over the island.

The day before Trump addressed the forum, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney urged his fellow "middle powers" to form new alliances, accusing the great powers of abandoning the post-Second World War system of freer trade and international norms, which required an adequate response. "We understand that this rupture calls for more than adaptation," he said, as "the old order is not coming back. We should not mourn it. Nostalgia is not a strategy."

— Arab News

Letters to the Editor

Utilising excess power

Pakistan is producing excess electricity which is adding to the prevailing financial crisis in the country, as the government has had to pay for the electricity but cannot sell it further because the demand is low due to high cost. It is therefore advisable for the government to increase electricity usage — through its own projects. One way can be to start electric tram-trains in congested cities. They are very efficient, reliable and easy to use. Tram-trains, like all public transport, are not profitable and require government subsidies in first few years. And this is where excess electricity can be put to use. Another easy way would be to construct cold storage in partnership with local entrepreneurs. Such facilities would improve food security and raise exports through increased electricity usage. The government can also fast-track construction of industries with heavy electricity use by allocating land on lease and creating business plans for projects through SMEDA. These new businesses can then be sold to public investors who can make investment and run these industries. Reducing taxes and cost of electric appliances can also increase electricity usage in domestic sector. Besides, export of electricity to neighbouring countries is also always a

good option.

Shahryar Khan Baseer
Islamabad

Educate every girl

A nation that denies education to its daughters denies itself progress, prosperity and peace. Yet across Pakistan — and particularly in Balochistan — millions of girls remain out of school, their potential wasted and our collective future diminished. Educating girls is not charity; it is the smartest investment any society can make. Educated girls become doctors healing communities, teachers inspiring generations, engineers building infrastructure, and leaders driving social change. Education gives girls agency over their own lives — the confidence to dream, decide, and determine their destinies. Yet cultural barriers, poverty, inadequate school infrastructure and lack of female teachers keep countless girls confined to homes instead of classrooms. In rural Balochistan, girls' enrollment drops dramatically after primary school due to distance, safety concerns and regressive attitudes. We must act decisively. The government should build more girls' schools in underserved areas, recruit and train female teachers, provide transportation and stipends for economically disadvantaged families, and launch community

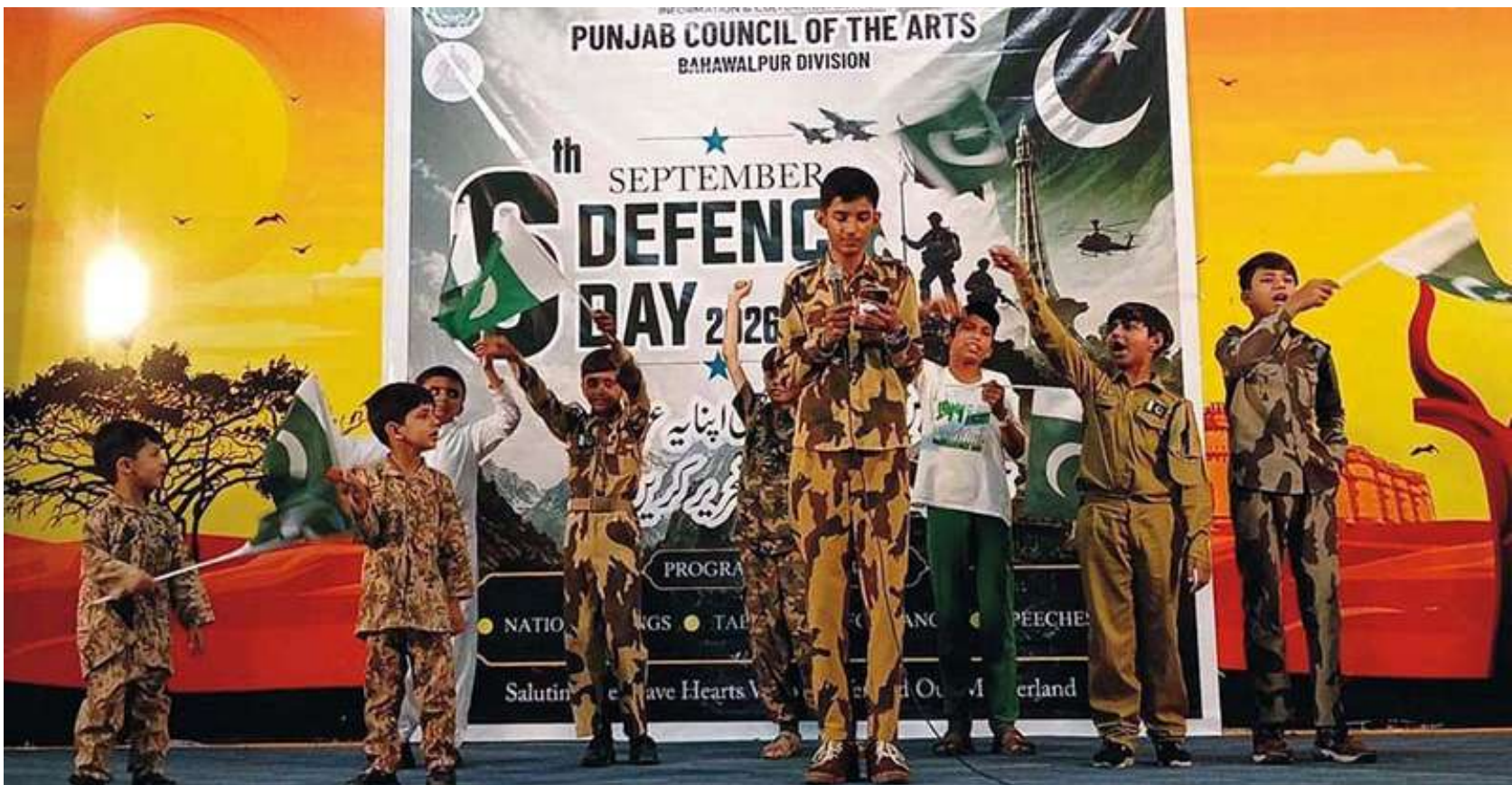
awareness campaigns challenging outdated mindsets. When we educate a girl, we educate a family, a community, a nation. Pakistan's progress depends on unlocking the potential of all its children — daughters and sons alike.

Hafsa Abdullah
Turbat

In a shambles

About two weeks back, I visited the Academy of Letters in Islamabad to attend a book launching ceremony. It was deeply disappointing to see the Academy in a dilapidated condition — poorly maintained and inadequately managed. This not only disrupted the spirit of the event but also compromised the prestige of the Academy. The Academy of Letters is a respected national institution, and it is distressing to see it gradually falling under the influence of vested groups and informal "mafias" that seek to control literary forums for their own benefit. Urgent steps need to be taken to improve maintenance and cleanliness of the Academy premises and ensure better management and transparency in future literary events so the institution remains protected from exploitation by self-serving elements.

Muhammad Saeed Akhter
Rawalpindi



School students perform in tableau during the Pakistan Defense Day event organized by the Punjab Council of the Arts.

Interior Minister orders reforms during surprise visit to CDA Facilitation Centre

APP- ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Monday conducted a surprise visit to the CDA Facilitation Centre in Islamabad, where he met citizens and listened to their concerns about delays, long queues, and service delivery.

During the visit, several citizens informed the minister that the system at the facilitation centre was still largely manual and that complete digitalisation had not yet been achieved. They also complained that documents were often not delivered on the promised dates, forcing them to make repeated visits to the centre.

Mohsin Naqvi took notice of these complaints and immediately directed the relevant officials to resolve the issues. He stressed that citizens should receive services without unnecessary delays and that the delivery of documents on scheduled dates must be ensured.

The minister also expressed concern over the presence of agents inside the facilitation centre. Taking a firm stance, he ordered strict action against anyone involved in such activities and instructed the administration to ensure that no agents were allowed to operate within the premises. "There should be no agents visible inside the Facilitation Centre," the minister said while directing officials to enforce the rules and maintain a transparent service environment. Mohsin Naqvi visited the senior citizens' counter as well and reviewed the facilities available for elderly visitors. He instructed staff to address the concerns of senior citizens on a priority basis and ensure that their matters were handled without delay.

The minister also reviewed the overall working environment and expressed dissatisfaction over long queues, overcrowd-



ing, and extended waiting times at various counters. To improve service delivery, he ordered the construction of additional counters and directed officials to carry out renovation work in the building.

Highlighting the need for modern systems, Mohsin Naqvi instructed the authori-

ties to fully digitise the facilitation centre's operations. He said a digital system would help provide faster and more transparent solutions to public issues and reduce the need for repeated visits.

The interior minister emphasized that citizens should not face inconvenience while accessing public services and directed officials to take all necessary measures to improve efficiency.

He further instructed the administration to ensure timely delivery of documents and strengthen service standards across the facility.

On the occasion, Mohsin Naqvi assured citizens that visible improvements would be seen within one month, adding that the government was committed to improving public services and making the facilitation centre more efficient and accessible for all visitors.

Dr. Tariq pays tribute to PAF Shaheens on Air Force Day

APP- ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry on Monday paid rich tribute to the brave personnel of the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) on the occasion of Air Force Day, acknowledging their courage, determination and professional excellence in defending the country. In his message, the minister said the day provided an opportunity to pay homage to the brave "Shaheens" of the PAF who had written remarkable chapters in the history of national defence through their courage, resolve and professional skills.

He said that during the 1965 war, the PAF's valiant pilots and personnel had foiled the enemy's designs and made the nation proud through their outstanding performance.

"The bravery and professional expertise of the PAF Shaheens constitute a glorious chapter in our defence history," he said. Dr. Tariq said the PAF's outstanding performance during Operation Bunyan-un-Marsoos had once again demonstrated its formidable defence capabilities. He said the operation had proved that the PAF Shaheens possessed the capability and determination to confront every challenge and effectively defend the country.

The minister said the PAF remained fully prepared and vigilant round the clock to safeguard Pakistan's airspace. He paid tribute to the martyrs of the Pakistan Air Force for their supreme sacrifices and lauded the services of its Ghazis.

SSGC to extend gas supply to 261 Sindh villages by 2029

APP- ISLAMABAD: The Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) plans to extend gas supply to 261 villages and towns in five Sindh districts by FY2028-29, connecting communities located within a five kilometre radius of gas producing fields through a 684.91-kilometre pipeline network at a combined estimated cost of Rs 5.73 billion, according to official documents.

The four phase plan, covering FY2025-26 to FY2028-29, aims to provide gas connections to 8,914 prospective customers in areas around various producing fields in Sindh.

The fifth phase, scheduled for FY2025-26, covers the Kousar, Tangri and Gambat South fields in Matiari, Tando Mohammed Khan and Sanghar districts.

It envisages gas supply to 88 villages, involving a 179.4km pipeline network and 2,303 prospective customers at an estimated cost of Rs 1.45 billion.

SSGC received Rs 1.326bn during FY2025-26 against third-year/phase schemes for supplying gas to 88 villages falling within a five kilometre radius of gas producing fields.

Detailed engineering surveys have been completed and the schemes are currently under preparation.

The sixth phase, planned for FY2026-27, covers the Bobi and Hassan fields in Sanghar and Shikarpur districts.

HEC concludes AI training for two cohorts of around 400 faculty members



APP- ISLAMABAD: National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE), Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan, has concluded a three-day Tier-I Faculty Training Programme on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Lecturers and Assistant Professors serving in public sector higher education institutions (HEIs).

The programme titled "AI Literacy for Educators: Building AI-Ready Institutions," aims to strengthen faculty capacity to understand, critically evaluate, and responsibly integrate AI into teaching, learning, research, assessment, and academic practice. NAHE has so far trained around 400 faculty members of universities, including 332 in cohort-I and nearly 64 in cohort-II. The programme has been specifically designed as a comprehensive professional development intervention, combining conceptual understanding, practical hands-on learning, critical reflection, and application of AI in diverse academic contexts. Managing Director NAHE (HEC) Dr Noor Amna Malik was the chief guest at the opening and closing cere-

monies, attended by members of the NAHE team, resource faculty, and participating faculty members. Addressing the participants, Dr Noor Amna Malik highlighted the importance of ethical use of AI in higher education. She emphasised that AI is rapidly changing the ways in which knowledge is created, taught, assessed, researched, and applied. She underscored the need for faculty members to safeguard academic integrity, critically evaluate AI outputs, and protect privacy and intellectual property.

Highlighting the importance of developing AI-ready institutions and noting that meaningful AI integration requires capable faculty she asked for developing institutional preparedness, appropriate governance mechanisms, ethical safeguards, and continuous professional development.

The programme focuses on developing among the participants the foundational and applied understanding of Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Large Language Models, and Generative AI.

PAF pays tribute to Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas Shaheed

APP- KARACHI: The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) on Sunday paid rich tribute to the supreme sacrifices and gallantry of its "Shaheens" on Monday (September 7), observed as a day to commemorate the valour and sacrifices of the PAF personnel.

A solemn ceremony was held at the mausoleum of Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas Shaheed, recipient of the Nishan-i-Haider, where Air Vice Marshal Akhtar Imran Sadozai, Air Officer Commanding, Southern Air Command, was the chief guest. Air Vice Marshal Sadozai visited the mausoleum, offered Fateha and laid a floral wreath at the grave of the national hero. A smartly turned-out contingent of the Pakistan Air Force presented a guard of honour and paid tribute to the supreme sacrifice of Rashid Minhas Shaheed. Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas sacrificed his life in the line of duty in defence of the motherland and earned an immortal place in the history of Pakistan through his courage and devotion. On behalf of the Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force, a floral wreath was also laid at the mausoleum of Rashid Minhas Shaheed.



CDA workers till and prepare the soil for placing grass patches along the roadside greenbelt on the Expressway.

OIC Launches Water Security Training as 16 Member States Face Critical Stress

APP- ISLAMABAD: A three-day intensive training programme on sustainable water governance and water security began at the OIC-COMSTTECH Secretariat on Monday, bringing together policymakers, water experts, researchers and development practitioners to explore practical responses to growing water scarcity and climate-related pressures across OIC member states.

The programme is being held under the umbrella of the OIC General Secretariat and OIC-COMSTTECH, in collaboration with the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTC) and Hissar Foundation.

The training focuses on integrated water resource management, climate-smart irrigation, transboundary groundwater governance, pollution control, digital technologies, data-driven decision-making, innovative financing and partnerships for water security.

Addressing the opening session, OIC Assistant Secretary General for Science and Technology Ambassador Aftab Ahmad Khokar described the initiative as timely, saying a significant number of OIC countries were



increasingly exposed to water insecurity, climate change, environmental degradation and pressure on natural resources. He said the deliberations and recommendations emerging from experts and participants would be acknowledged and could contribute to developing practical approaches for cooperation among OIC countries. He reaffirmed the OIC General Secretariat's support for knowledge-sharing and technical collaboration to address common water challenges. SESRTC Director General, Zehra Zümrüt Selçuk said water stress had become one of the most pressing development challenges facing the Islamic world. Citing the OIC Water Report 2025, she noted that 16 OIC member states were currently experiencing critical levels of water stress.

ITP takes road safety message to over 800,000 citizens this year

APP- ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) has educated more than 800,000 citizens on traffic laws and road safety during the current year, stepping up awareness activities at schools, colleges, universities and other institutions to promote safer and responsible driving.

An ITP official told APP on Monday that the road safety awareness campaign was continuing on the directions of Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Kainat Azhar Khan, with special focus on compliance with traffic laws, safe travel and responsible driving.

He said awareness programmes were being organised at schools, colleges, universities and different institutions across the federal capital.

During the activities, citizens were educated about the

importance of wearing helmets and seat belts, maintaining lane discipline and following traffic laws.

The official said the campaign was aimed at reducing road accidents and ensuring safer travel for citizens by promoting responsible road behaviour.

ITP would continue its awareness activities to promote safer roads and responsible road users in Islamabad, he added.

CTO Kainat urged citizens to strictly follow traffic laws to protect themselves and others from road accidents.

She said greater public awareness and compliance with traffic rules were essential for safe driving and prevention of traffic accidents.



Daily-wage labourers unload onion sacks from a delivery truck at the Vegetable Market.



ایف آئی آر رپورٹ

ایران کی پارلیمنٹ کے سپیکر محمد باقر قالیباف نے امریکی سیکریٹری دفاع پیٹ ہیکسٹھ کے بیان کا جواب دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ اگر ان کے ملک کی تنصیبات کو نشانہ بنایا گیا تو تہران امریکہ اہداف کو بھی نشانہ بنائے گا۔ پیر کو سوشل میڈیا پلیٹ فارم ایکس پر امریکی سیکریٹری دفاع کو مخاطب کرتے ہوئے قالیباف کا کہنا تھا کہ اگر ہماری تنصیبات کو نشانہ بنایا جائے گا تو جواب میں آپ کو بھی نشانہ بنایا جائے گا۔ انھوں نے مزید کہا کہ ہم یہ پہلے بھی یہ ثابت کر چکے ہیں۔ ان (امریکی) اڈوں سے پوچھیں جواب قابل استعمال نہیں رہے۔

خیال رہے دو دن قبل امریکی وزیر دفاع پیٹ ہیکسٹھ نے کہا تھا کہ اگر ایران امریکہ بحری جہازوں پر حملہ کرے گا تو ہم ان کے آئل ٹینکرز کو تباہ اور غرق کر دیں گے۔ انھیں (ایران) کو چاہیے کہ امریکہ بحریہ پر حملہ نہ کرے۔ انھوں نے مزید کہا تھا کہ ایران کے آئل ٹینکرز ناقابل دفاع ہیں، ایران کے کے پاس نہ بحریہ ہے اور نہ فضائیہ۔ ہمارے ہوائی جہاز، بحری جہاز اور آبدوزیں انھیں جب چاہیں نشانہ بناسکتی ہیں۔

ایرانی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان اسماعیل ہتائی نے ایکس پر اپنے ایک حالیہ بیان میں جنونی کوریہ کو خیردار کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پہلے فارس اور آبنائے هرمز میں کارروائیوں میں شرکت کے دستکین نتائج ہوں گے۔

اسماعیل ہتائی نے ایکس پر کوریائی زبان میں جاری اپنے پیغام میں کہا کہ 'ایران جنونی کوریہ کی موجودگی کو حملہ اور امریکی جارحیت میں شرکت تصور کرے گا۔ یہ بیان ایسے وقت میں سامنے آیا ہے جب جنونی کوریہ آبنائے هرمز میں بحری جہازوں کی سیوریٹی اور آزادانہ آمدورفت یقینی بنانے کی کوششوں میں شرکت کے مختلف آپشنز پر غور کر رہا ہے۔

متحدہ عرب امارات کے صدر کے مشیر انور قرقاش کا کہنا ہے کہ ان کا ملک اپنی توانائی کی برآمدات اور تجارتی سرگرمیوں کے لیے متبادل راستے تعمیر کر رہا ہے تاکہ وہ امریکہ اور ایران کے درمیان جاری جنگ کے باعث 'یرغمال' نہ ہوں۔

خبر رساں ادارے روئٹرز کے مطابق قرقاش نے ابوظہبی میں ایک فورم پر خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ ہماری توانائی کی برآمدات، تجارت اور معاشی سرگرمیوں کو یرغمال نہیں بنایا جا



سکتا۔ انھوں نے اپنے خطاب کے دوران ایران کے ساتھ متحدہ عرب امارات کے تعلقات کی بحالی کو خارج الامکان قرار نہیں دیا، تاہم ان کا کہنا تھا کہ ایران کے حملوں کے بعد دونوں ممالک کے درمیان اتحاد کی بحالی میں کئی

دہائیاں لگ سکتی ہیں۔ انور قرقاش نے خلیجی عرب ریاستوں کو بھی تنقید کا نشانہ بنایا کہ وہ ایران کے معاملے میں مشترکہ ردعمل دینے میں ناکام رہیں۔

قطری وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان ماجد الانصاری کا کہنا ہے کہ ایران جنگ نے یہ بات نمایاں کی ہے کہ خلیجی ریاستیں اپنی سلامتی کے لیے صرف امریکہ کے ساتھ سڑجنگ پارٹنرشپ پر انحصار نہیں کر سکتیں۔ قطری وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان ماجد الانصاری نے ابوظہبی میں ایک فورم پر خطاب کے دوران کہا کہ ہمیں خلیجی خطے میں یہ بات سمجھنے کی ضرورت ہے کہ خطے میں بین الاقوامی افواج کی موجودگی اور امریکہ کے ساتھ سڑجنگ اتحاد انتہائی اہم ہے، لیکن یہ کافی نہیں ہے۔ سلامتی کے معاملے میں خود انحصاری ہی آگے بڑھنے کا واحد راستہ ہے۔

لبنان کی سرکاری خبر رساں ایجنسی کے مطابق جنوبی لبنان کے ایک قصبے میں رہائشی قمارت پر اسرائیلی حملوں کے نتیجے میں دو بچوں سمیت کم از کم نو افراد ہلاک اور پانچ زخمی ہو گئے۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق یہ حملہ جنوبی لبنان کے قصبہ کفرمان میں کیا گیا۔

اسرائیلی جنوبی لبنان کے ایک حصے کو 'سیوریٹی زون' قرار دیتا ہے اور اس کا کہنا ہے کہ جب تک حزب اللہ غیر مسلح نہیں ہوتی، وہ ان علاقوں سے اپنی فوج واپس نہیں بلائے گا۔ گزشتہ چند روز کے دوران جنوبی لبنان پر اسرائیلی حملوں میں ایک بار مارچ سے اب تک لبنان میں اسرائیلی حملوں کے نتیجے میں 300,4 سے زائد افراد ہلاک ہو چکے ہیں۔

ایران کے ذرائع ابلاغ کے مطابق

غیر ملکی صحافیوں کے ایک گروپ کو سرپک جانے اور کوہستک میں واقع اس گھر کا دورہ کرنے کی اجازت دی گئی جہاں شادی کی تقریب جاری تھی اور جو علاقے پر امریکی فضائی حملے کے دوران متاثر ہوا۔

فارس نیوز ایجنسی نے اتوار، 5 ستمبر کو رپورٹ کیا کہ نو مالک سے تعلق رکھنے والے 30 صحافیوں کو اس علاقے میں لے جایا گیا۔ صحافیوں نے کوہستک میں شادی کی تقریب کے مقام کا دورہ کیا اور وہاں پر رنگت کے علاوہ ساحل سمندر پر نصب موصلاتی ٹاور کا بھی جائزہ لیا۔ اس واقعے میں، جس کے بارے میں روئٹرز اور واشنگٹن پوسٹ نے فوجی ماہرین کے حوالے سے کہا ہے کہ یہ امریکی ساختہ گولہ بارود کے استعمال کے نتیجے میں پیش آیا، ایک سچے سمیت پانچ افراد ہلاک جبکہ بچوں اور خواتین سمیت 60 سے زائد افراد زخمی ہوئے۔ ایران نے اس فضائی حملے کو جنگی جرم قرار دیا ہے، تاہم سینٹ کام کا کہنا ہے کہ امریکی فوج اس معاملے کی تحقیقات کر رہی ہے اور اس نے زور دیا ہے کہ امریکی فوجی افواج کبھی بھی شہریوں کو نشانہ نہیں بناتیں۔

ایران کی سپریم فیصل سیکوریٹی کونسل کے سیکریٹری حسن رضائی نے دعویٰ کیا ہے کہ ایران نے پہلی بار ایک امریکی بحری جہاز کے خلاف ایرانی ساختہ اسٹینڈرڈ میزائل کا استعمال کیا ہے۔ حسن رضائی نے ایک ویڈیو انٹرویو میں کہا کہ 48 گھنٹے قبل ہم نے پہلی بار ایک امریکی بحری جہاز کے خلاف ایرانی اسٹینڈرڈ میزائل کا تجربہ کیا۔ اس مخصوص میزائل

نے امریکیوں کے لیے جہنم برپا کردی اور وہ فرار ہو گئے۔

امریکی سینٹرل کمانڈ (سینٹکام) نے ایران کے اس دعوے پر براہ راست کوئی ردعمل نہیں دیا، تاہم گزشتہ روز ایکس پر ایک پوسٹ میں اس نے بظاہر اپنے دو بحری جہازوں پر ہونے والے حملے کا حوالہ دیتے ہوئے لکھا گیا تھا کہ 'پاسداران انقلاب کے لیے پیغام واضح ہے اگر آپ ہمارے دو بحری جہازوں پر فائر کریں گے تو ہم آپ پر نہیں زیادہ ہماری معاشی لاگت عائد کریں گے اور آپ کے تین بحری جہاز تباہ کر دیں گے۔' بیان میں مزید کہا گیا تھا کہ 'ہم امریکی افواج کے دفاع سے دریغ نہیں کریں گے اور ضرورت پڑنے پر ایران کے، متحدہ اور کمزور ٹینکر بیڑے کو تباہ کر دیں گے۔' پاسداران انقلاب کے سابق کمانڈر نے اس علاقے میں بحری آمدورفت کے ممکنہ نتائج کے بارے میں کہا کہ "خلاف ورزی کرنے والے وہ بغیر کارروائی کریں گے، ایران کی پابندیوں کی فہرست میں شامل ہوں گے اور انہیں انٹرنس کے مسائل اور بعد میں سازش میں مشکلات سمیت دیگر نتائج کا سامنا کرنا پڑے گا۔"

ایران کی سپریم فیصل سیکوریٹی کونسل کے سیکریٹری حسن رضائی نے اعلان کیا ہے کہ ان کا ملک آئندہ چند روز میں آبنائے هرمز کے باہر ایک 'نوگوزن' قائم کرنے کا ارادہ رکھتا ہے۔ یہ تہران کی جانب سے امریکہ کے ساتھ بدھتقی ہوئی فوجی اور اقتصادی کشیدگی کے دوران تازہ ترین

اقدام ہے۔ حسن رضائی نے اتوار کو ایرانی سرکاری ٹیلی ویژن سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ یہ زون امریکی بحریہ کی جانب سے قائم کردہ حاصرے کی لائن سے شروع ہوگی اور خلیج کے کچھ حصوں تک پھیلی ہوئی ہوگی۔

انھوں نے مزید کہا کہ 'نئے زون میں داخل ہونے والے کسی بھی بحری جہاز کو ایران کی 'پابندیوں کی فہرست' میں شامل کر دیا جائے گا، تاہم انھوں نے یہ واضح نہیں کیا کہ ان پابندیوں کی خلاف ورزی کرنے والے جہازوں کے خلاف تہران کیا اقدامات کرے گا۔ رضائی نے یہ بھی کہا کہ آبنائے هرمز مکمل طور پر بند ہے اور ایرانی مسلح افواج کے کنٹرول میں ہے۔ تاہم یہ بیان امریکی موقف سے متضاد ہے، جس کے مطابق اس اہم آبی گزرگاہ سے تیل بردار جہازوں کی آمدورفت جاری ہے۔

امریکی وزیر توانائی کرس رائٹ نے اتوار کو کہا کہ روزانہ 90 لاکھ بیرل سے زیادہ تیل آبنائے هرمز سے گزرتا ہے۔ ان کے مطابق متبادل سپلائی راستوں کے ذریعے تیل کی ترسیل بڑھ کر اس سطح کے تقریباً دو تہائی تک پہنچ گئی ہے جو موجودہ کشیدگی شروع ہونے سے پہلے ریکارڈ کی گئی تھی۔

معمول کے حالات میں دنیا کی تقریباً پانچویں حصے کی تیل اور مائع قدرتی گیس کی سپلائی آبنائے هرمز سے گزرتی ہے، اس لیے اس آبی گزرگاہ میں بحری آمدورفت میں کسی بھی قسم کی رکاوٹ عالمی توانائی کی منڈیوں کے لیے اہم اثرات مرتب کر سکتی ہے۔

ایرانی تنصیبات پر حملوں کی صورت میں

امریکی اہداف ہمارے نشانے پر ہوں گے:

قالیباف کا امریکی سیکریٹری دفاع کو جواب

فارس میں فوجی کارروائیوں میں شرکت کے دستکین نتائج ہوں گے: ایران کی جنوبی کوریہ کو تنبیہ

توانائی کی برآمدات اور تجارت کو امریکہ، ایران جنگ میں یرغمال نہیں بننے دیں

گے: متحدہ عرب امارات

خلیجی خطے میں امریکہ کے ساتھ سڑجنگ اتحاد اہم ہے، مگر کافی نہیں: قطری عہدیدار

لبنان میں اسرائیلی فوج کا حملہ، دو بچوں سمیت نو افراد ہلاک

غیر ملکی صحافیوں کا سرپک میں امریکی فوج کی بمباری کا نشانہ بننے والی شادی کی

تقریب کے مقام کا دورہ: فارس نیوز

پہلی بار امریکہ کے خلاف ایرانی 'اینٹی ڈسٹرائز' میزائل استعمال کیا گیا: محسن رضائی

ایران کا آبنائے هرمز کے باہر 'نوگوزن' قائم کرنے کا عندیہ

Boxing fades, four fight on Pakistan sends two men, two women to Japan Asian Games as funding, exposure remain hurdles



SPORTS DESK, KARACHI: Once regarded as one of Pakistan’s strongest prospects for medals at the Asian Games, boxing heads into this month’s continental showpiece with modest expectations and a four-member squad.

Pakistan has not won an Asian Games boxing medal since the 2014 Incheon Games, when Mohammad Waseem secured bronze. Waseem has since moved into the professional boxing and has become a WBA World Gold champion. The drought continued at the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta and the 2023 Games in Hangzhou, with Pakistan’s boxers failing to reach the podium.

This time, the country will field two

men and two women at the Games in Japan, which formally open on September 19.

Sumama Rahman will compete in the 55kg category, while Irfan Khan will enter the 92kg division. Fatima Zehra will fight at 60kg and Maria Rind at 51kg. The squad has been training at the Pakistan Sports Complex in Islamabad since August 24 after the Pakistan Boxing Federation (PBF) conducted an earlier camp in Rawalpindi with the assistance from the army and the Pakistan Olympic Association (POA).

“Yes, the army backed us, more especially administratively, and we are thankful to them,” PBF president Col

Nasir Tung told The Express Tribune.

Tariq Siddiqui of WAPDA and Liaquat Mughal of Navy will accompany the boxers to Japan.

The financial constraints surrounding the team underline one of the sport’s biggest problems in Pakistan, the limited resources for international competition. Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) will sponsor one male and one female boxer, while the federation will cover the remaining members of the delegation.

“Yes, what we can as Board sponsors only two boxers,” Nasir said.

For the federation, the challenge goes beyond funding a single Asian Games campaign. Nasir said Pakistan’s boxers

lacked the international exposure needed to build rankings and gain experience against stronger oppositions. “We don’t have corporate sector support and state also does not back us that much and it’s not easy to ensure maximum participation of boxers in international circuit,” he said. That lack of competition has a direct impact on Pakistan’s prospects at major events, he added. “Unless you give exposure to boxers they will not improve,” Nasir said. The Asian Games draw will be particularly demanding, with established boxing nations from Central Asia joined by strong contenders from countries including Iran, India, Thailand and hosts Japan.

Fatima fined for Asia Cup conduct breach

SPORTS DESK, Pakistan captain Fatima Sana has been fined 10 per cent of her match fee for breaching Level 1 of the International Cricket Council’s Code of Conduct dur-



ing her team’s Women’s Asia Cup defeat by India.

Fatima was found to have breached Article 2.5 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, relating to language, actions or gestures that disparage or could provoke an aggressive reaction from a batter upon dismissal. One demerit point was also added to her disciplinary record, taking her total to two in a 24-month period. Her previous demerit point came during a T20 international against Ireland in Dublin on August 6, 2025. Fatima admitted the offence and accepted the sanctions proposed by Supriya Das of the Emirates ICC International Panel of Match Referees, meaning no formal hearing was required. The incident occurred after Fatima dismissed India’s Shafali Verma during Saturday’s Group A match in Dubai. After completing the catch, the Pakistan skipper gestured towards the pavilion. India’s bowlers had earlier dismissed Pakistan for just 55, but Fatima fought back with the ball, taking three wickets before India secured a seven-wicket victory.

ADOP clarifies position on Mohammad Inam doping case

APP- ISLAMABAD: The Anti-Doping Organization of Pakistan (ADOP) on Monday clarified its position regarding reports concerning wrestler Mohammad Inam and an adverse analytical finding reported during the Asian Beach Games held in China in April 2026.

ADOP, in a press release, stated that it is an independent anti-doping organization and does not operate under the Pakistan Sports Board (PSB), contrary to the impression created in some recent reports. The organization said that Mohammad Inam had not applied to ADOP for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) before participating in the Asian Beach Games. According to ADOP, records in the Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (ADAMS) show that a retroactive TUE was subsequently granted by United World Wrestling (UWW) on July 24, 2026, independently of ADOP.

Inam opts against B-sample



SPORTS DESK, LAHORE: Pakistan ace-wrestler Muhammad Inam Butt has decided not to have his B sample tested after returning a positive doping finding at the Asian Beach Games in China, while leaving open the possibility of challenging any eventual sanction before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), sources close to the wrestler said.

Inam, who won a silver medal at the Asian Beach Games in April, was among the wrestlers tested during the competition. A sample taken from him was found to contain a small amount of a prohibited substance, prompting anti-doping authorities to issue him a notice.

Sources close to Inam confirmed that he received the notice and said the wrestler had used medication to treat an eye condition before the Games.

Inam has told anti-doping authorities that he had been prescribed acetazolamide after consulting a doctor for an eye problem. He maintains that the medicine was taken for therapeutic purposes and had no connection with performance enhancement.

According to sources familiar with the case, Inam provided information about the medication, including medical records, scans and the doctor’s prescription, in response to the anti-doping notice. The International Testing Agency (ITA) subsequently conducted its own review and further testing as part of the inquiry.

The case has also involved the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), which issued a letter to Inam on July 24 allowing him to use the medication twice a day until July 13, 2027, sources claimed.

Inam’s representatives argue that

the subsequent authorisation for the medication raises questions about the adverse analytical finding and the handling of his case.

Anti-doping authorities, however, have maintained that athletes are required to disclose the use of medicines containing prohibited substances through the prescribed process, including where applicable seeking a therapeutic use exemption before competition.

The wrestler has now decided against a B-sample analysis. His representatives are reviewing the available options with legal advisers and could take the matter to the CAS if a suspension is imposed.

Under anti-doping rules, a confirmed violation could result in a suspension, with the length depending on the substance detected, the circumstances of the case and whether the athlete can establish an applicable defence or mitigating factors. A suspension could have consequences beyond Inam’s competitive career. He is also serving as secretary of the Pakistan Wrestling Federation (PWF) and could be barred from participating in wrestling-related activities.

Inam has been the finest wrestlers in Pakistan’s last two decades journey. He has pulled off major medals in international circuit, also including two golds in the Commonwealth Game. He was also an undisputed beach wrestling world champion for few years and has also to his credit gold in the World Beach Games. Inam has also served quite well during his ongoing stint as PWF secretary and has conducted a lengthy talent-hunt programme as part of wrestling development at the grass-roots level.



Participants compete in Xiangqi, a traditional Chinese board game also known as the Chinese chess, in the village of Deir el-Qamar, Mount Lebanon, Lebanon, Sept. 6, 2026. An annual championship in Xiangqi was held here on Sunday.

Ashley backs good Test cricket

SPORTS DESK, Pakistan bowling coach Ashley Noffke said on Monday that they will solely focus on playing good Test cricket in the third and final Test against England which will begin at Birmingham on Wednesday (tomorrow).

“The strategy is good Test cricket. We want to improve and focus on what we can control with the skills we have here. It’s just about focusing on good Test cricket. We will need to play with discipline, bowl in good areas, build long partnerships in batting and put the opposition under pressure over periods of time,”Noffke told a news conference at Birmingham.

“We watched the pitch during the last couple of days and we are also watching above and see the weather. England can still be looking up, but it



looks a good surface and the groundsmen have been working very hard,” he said. Noffke said Pakistan were also looking to maintain balance in their bowling attack by having players capable of performing different roles. “It’s about providing some balance, and we have guys who can do different things, which is important. Ubaid Shah is a value addition, and we have

a left-arter in Imran Junior. Razaullah is a right-arter with a slightly different action and good pace, which is about providing stability around those guys. Abbas has obviously bowled amazingly in this series, and we need to support him as best we can.” Speaking about the young fast bowlers, Noffke said they were close to the 140kph mark but needed to gain experience in English conditions. “I am not the selector, but they are certainly close to 140 kilometres per hour. They don’t have experience in English conditions, but they will learn and grow. As a cricket team, you need a forward-thinking approach about what we might need in future. It’s important to bring young guys in so they can become accustomed to the conditions.

Pietersen makes England return as white-ball mentor

SPORTS DESK, Kevin Pietersen has joined England’s white-ball coaching team as a “specialist mentor” in the build-up to next year’s World Cup in southern Africa.

Pietersen’s role with Brendon McCullum’s coaching staff begins later this month when England face Sri Lanka in three T20 internationals and three ODIs. The former England batter has previously worked as a mentor with Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League and briefly assisted England’s batters during an ODI series in South Africa in 2023.

Pietersen has largely worked as a broadcaster since retiring from professional cricket in 2018, but has remained outspoken about England’s approach.

He criticised McCullum’s team for what he described as a relaxed training culture during their tour of India in early 2025, comments McCullum rejected as “factually



incorrect”. Pietersen will miss England’s ODI tri-series in Pakistan in October but will work with the squad on tours of Australia and South Africa over the winter.

He will then be involved in home series against Pakistan and New Zealand before the 2027 World Cup, which will be hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. The England and Wales Cricket Board said Pietersen’s experience of growing up in South Africa would provide valuable local knowledge ahead of the tournament. He joins former England team-mate Marcus Trescothick, as well as Tim Southee, Jeetan Patel and Sarah Taylor, in McCullum’s coaching staff. Pietersen’s return marks a striking reversal from 2014, when England ended his international career amid what then director of cricket Andrew Strauss described as a “massive trust issue” between the player and the ECB.



Jiang Chuan (2nd L), Peng Shikun (2nd R) and Yu Yuantai (1st R) of China block the ball during the pool B match between China and New Zealand at AVC Men’s Volleyball Continental Championship in Kitakyushu, Japan,



Heavy machinery and labourers work to complete the Park Road Underpass project, which is nearing completion.

Interior Minister pays tribute to PAF on Air Force Day

APP- ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi paid tribute to the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) on Air Force Day, saying that September 7 remains a landmark day in the country's history and reflects the courage and professional capability demonstrated by PAF personnel during the 1965 war. In his message issued on Air Force Day, the minister said the Pakistan Air Force played a key role in defending the country during the war and successfully responded to enemy aggression. He noted that the performance of PAF pilots and personnel during the war became an important chapter in Pakistan's military history. Mohsin Naqvi particularly remembered Squadron Leader Muhammad Mahmood Alam (M.M. Alam), describing his actions as one of the most notable events of the 1965 war. He said M.M. Alam achieved a historic feat by shooting down five enemy aircraft within a short span of time, a record that continues to be remembered in the history of aerial warfare. The minister stated that the nation takes pride in the professional standards, operational capability, and service of the Pakistan Air Force. He said PAF officers and personnel have consistently demonstrated commitment to the defense of the country and have fulfilled their responsibilities with dedication. Naqvi said the guardians of Pakistan's air frontiers remain prepared at all times to safeguard the nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity. He added that the force continues to maintain a high level of readiness to meet any challenge. Paying tribute to martyrs and veterans, the interior minister said their sacrifices have strengthened the country's defense and contributed to national security. He acknowledged the role played by those who laid down their lives in the line of duty and those who served with distinction in protecting the country.

ICT Police Seize Six Illegal Weapons, Arrest Suspect

APP- ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police have arrested a suspect and recovered two automatic rifles, a Kalashnikov, three pistols and a large quantity of ammunition in another major action under the ongoing "Weapon-Free Islamabad" campaign. An official told APP on Monday that Bani Gala Police carried out the operation against illegal weapons and arrested accused Talib Hussain. Police recovered six weapons — two automatic rifles, one Kalashnikov and three pistols — along with a large quantity of ammunition from his possession. SSP Operations Qazi Ali Raza said ICT Police had a zero-tolerance policy against illegal weapons and display of arms in the federal capital. He said special police teams were carrying out targeted operations against individuals involved in possessing illegal weapons. The SSP Qazi said action under the "Weapon-Free Islamabad" campaign was continuing across the capital on the directions of the IGP Islamabad.

Gilani calls for deeper, broader capital markets to boost equity financing

APP- ISLAMABAD: Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Monday stressed the need to deepen Pakistan's capital markets, broaden participation and encourage greater use of equity financing to support economic growth. Addressing a ceremony after inaugurating the Founders' Wall at the Islamabad Stock Exchange (ISE) Towers Limited, he said capital markets should play a greater role in mobilising savings, expanding businesses, creating jobs and strengthening the country's industrial base. The acting president recalled the contribution of late Ihsan-ul-Haq Piracha, who, as Minister of State for Finance in the government of Prime Minister Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, was instrumental in establishing the Islamabad Stock Exchange in 1989. He also paid tribute to the first Board of



Directors for laying the foundations of the trading and settlement infrastructure that served Pakistan for more than two decades. Speaking at the ceremony, the acting

opportunity and bring the northern regions of Pakistan into the country's financial mainstream. Recalling his own association with the institution, Acting President Gilani said that as Prime Minister he had the privilege of laying the foundation stone of the ISE Towers. He said it had been his conviction that Islamabad should not only be the administrative heart of the country but also a pillar of its economic dynamism. Mr Gilani said stock exchanges, beyond technical indicators such as trading volumes, index points and market capitalisation, were fundamentally vehicles of trust that could turn individual savings into national wealth and enable businesses to expand, create jobs and build industry without relying solely on bank debt.

ایف آئی آر Whatsapp 0330-9255555

نے کیپٹل پٹرولز کی ورکنگ،

فیملڈ ڈیوٹی اور شہریوں کو بروقت پولیس

رہنمائی فراہم کرنے کے حوالے سے بھی

مختلہ افسران سے بریفنگ لی۔ آئی جی

اسلام آباد نے اس موقع پر ہدایت کی کہ

کیپٹل پٹرولز کے افسران و جوان فیملڈ میں

اپنی موجودگی کو مزید موثر بنائیں، نکتہ

کے نظام کو مزید فعال رکھیں اور شہریوں کو

بروقت و موثر پولیس رہنمائی کی فراہمی یقینی

بنائیں۔ انہوں نے پولیس افسران و

جوانوں کے لیے بہتر ورکنگ ماحول اور

بنیادی سہولیات کی فراہمی پر بھی خصوصی

توجہ دینے کی ہدایت کی۔ آئی جی اسلام

افسران و جوانوں کے لیے بہتر ورکنگ ماحول، سہولیات اور عوامی خدمات کے معیار کو مزید بہتر بنانا

شہریوں کی سہولت، پولیس سروسز کے معیار

اور افسران و جوانوں کی فلاح و بہبود کو

مد نظر رکھتے ہوئے تمام اقدامات کو موثر



ایف آئی آر رپورٹ

آئی جی اسلام آباد سید علی ناصر رضوی کا تھانہ سیکرٹریٹ، تھانہ شالیمار اور کیپٹل پٹرولز ہیڈ کوارٹرز کا دورہ

آئی جی اسلام آباد نے تھانہ جات کے مختلف شعبہ جات، شہریوں کو فراہم کی جانے والی پولیس سہولیات، SIPS پروٹوکولز کے تحت جاری سرگرمیوں، پولیس افسران و جوانوں کے لیے دستیاب سہولیات اور مجموعی انتظامی امور کا تفصیلی جائزہ لیا

تفصیلات کے مطابق انسپکٹر جنرل آف پولیس اسلام آباد سید علی ناصر رضوی نے تھانہ سیکرٹریٹ، تھانہ شالیمار اور کیپٹل پٹرولز ہیڈ کوارٹرز کا دورہ کیا۔ دورے کے دوران آئی جی اسلام آباد نے تھانہ جات کے مختلف شعبہ جات، شہریوں کو فراہم کی جانے والی پولیس سہولیات، SIPS پروٹوکولز کے تحت جاری سرگرمیوں، پولیس افسران و جوانوں کے لیے دستیاب سہولیات اور مجموعی انتظامی امور کا تفصیلی جائزہ لیا۔ تھانہ سیکرٹریٹ اور تھانہ شالیمار کے دورے کے دوران آئی جی اسلام آباد نے فرنیچر، ڈیسک، مختلف شعبہ جات اور دیگر اہم حصوں کا معائنہ کیا اور شہریوں کو فراہم کی جانے والی پولیس سہولیات کا جائزہ لیا۔ انہوں نے تھانہ جات میں آنے والے شہریوں کے لیے بہتر، صاف ستھرا اور سازگار ماحول کی فراہمی کے لیے کیے گئے اقدامات کا بھی معائنہ کیا۔ آئی جی اسلام آباد نے پولیس افسران و جوانوں کی ڈیوٹی، تھانہ جات کے مجموعی انتظامات اور مختلف شعبہ جات کی کارکردگی کا جائزہ لیتے ہوئے ہدایت کی

یونٹ کے آپریشنل و انتظامی امور، جاری ترقیاتی و ترقیاتی کاموں اور پولیس افسران و جوانوں کے لیے فراہم کی جانے والی سہولیات کا تفصیلی جائزہ انہوں

آباد نے کہا کہ جدید ٹیکنالوجی کے تقاضوں کے مطابق تھانہ جات اور پولیس یونٹس کو بہتر سہولیات سے آراستہ کرنا، شہریوں کو معیاری پولیس سروسز فراہم کرنا اور پولیس

انداز میں آگے بڑھایا جائے، جبکہ جاری تعمیراتی و ترقیاتی کاموں کی باقاعدگی سے نگرانی کرتے ہوئے انہیں مقررہ معیار اور مدت کے اندر مکمل کیا جائے۔

بنیادوں پر عمل کرنے اور پولیس سے متعلق خدمات تک عوام کی آسان رسائی کو مزید بہتر بنایا جائے۔ انہوں نے SIPS پروٹوکولز کے تحت تھانہ جات میں جاری سرگرمیوں کا بھی معائنہ کیا اور کام کے معیار، پیش رفت اور دستیاب سہولیات کا

شہریوں کو پولیس خدمات کی فراہمی میں کسی قسم کی غفلت یا تاخیر برداشت نہیں کی جائے گی۔ شہریوں کے مسائل کو ترجیحی