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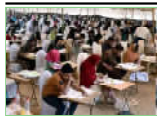
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Monday 27
October, 2025

MDCAT 2025: 140,000 Students Compete for 22,000 Medical Seats

Quetta Teen Teacher's Murder: Police Arrest Key Accused as Heartbroken Father Demands Justice

Syed Ali Shah: QUETTA: The heartbreaking murder of 17-year-old school teacher Maryam Bibi in Quetta's Huda area has sent shockwaves across Balochistan, as police arrested a key accused involved in the brutal killing that sparked outrage on social media.

According to Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Serious Crimes Investigation Wing, Imran Qureshi, the arrested accused has confessed to committing the crime. "There were two men involved—one riding the motorcycle and the other who opened fire on the young girl," SSP Qureshi told quettavoice.com. He confirmed that the main accused is now in custody, while raids are underway to arrest the remaining accomplice.

Maryam, a promising young teacher loved by her students, was shot dead outside her residence, leaving the entire neighbor-



hood in shock. Her father, Mir Ahmed, could barely hold back his tears as he spoke to this daily.

"She was just a child... she was murdered right outside our home. This is unbearable cruelty," he said, his voice breaking with emotion.

The killing went viral on social media, where citizens from across Pakistan con-

demned the tragic incident and demanded swift justice for the slain teenager.

Taking notice of the public outcry, Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti has directed police to bring the perpetrators to justice.

"We are on it. The accused will be arrested and punished according to the law," SSP Qureshi assured. The SSP also visited Maryam's home,

offering condolences and prayers for the departed soul, and expressing solidarity with the grief-stricken parents.

The tragic killing of Maryam Bibi has once again raised serious questions about the safety of young women and teachers in Balochistan, prompting calls for stronger law enforcement and protection for educators.



Three Suspected Robbers Killed in Police Encounter in Quetta's Killi Khali Area

Staff Reporter: QUETTA: Three suspected robbers were killed during an exchange of gunfire with police on the outskirts of Quetta on Saturday morning, according to officials.

Saddar DSP Shaukat Jadoon said the incident took place in Killi Khali, an area falling under the jurisdiction of the Brewery Police Station. A police patrol team was reportedly fired upon by armed suspects, prompting law enforcement personnel to retaliate.

"All three suspects were neutralized in the exchange of fire," DSP Jadoon stated. "Weapons and



ammunition were recovered from their possession." The bodies of the deceased were shifted to Bolan Medical College Hospital for medico-legal formalities. Police have launched an investigation to ascertain the identities of the suspects and their possible links to recent criminal activities in Quetta and nearby regions.

Authorities said increased police patrolling continues in Quetta's outskirts to curb incidents of robbery, street crime, and armed attacks.

Security forces kill 25 terrorists in two separate KP operations: ISPR

NEWS DESK: Security forces foiled two major terrorist infiltration attempts from Afghanistan on 24-25 October 2025, killing 25 militants, including four suicide bombers, and seizing a large cache of weapons and explosives in separate operations in North Waziristan and Kurram districts, the military's media wing said on Sunday.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), on 24-25 October 2025, security forces detected movements of two large groups of khwarij attempting to infiltrate Pakistan from Afghanistan near Ghaki in Kurram District and Spinwam in North Waziristan District.

"Own troops effectively engaged these groups of khwarij [and] as a result of precise and skilful engagements, fifteen khwarij, including four suicide bombers belonging to [the] Indian proxy,

Fitna al Khwarij were sent to hell in Spinwam, North Waziristan District," the statement said.

It added that another ten infiltrating khwarij were killed in Ghaki, Kurram District, and a large cache of weapons, ammunition, and explosives was re-

covered from the slain militants. Fitna al Khwarij is the state-designated term for the banned Tehreek-i-Libab Pakistan (TLP).

The statement added that despite successfully thwarting the infiltration attempt, five soldiers sacrificed their lives during the intense firefight.

point out that these infiltration attempts by Fitna al Khwarij are being carried out at a time when delegations of Pakistan and Afghanistan are engaged in talks in Türkiye, casting doubts on the intentions of the Interim Afghan Government with regards to addressing the issue of terrorism emanating from its soil," the statement

forces of Pakistan remain resolute and unwavering in their commitment to defend the nation's frontiers, and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve," it said.

Sanitisation operation is being conducted to eliminate any other Indian sponsored kharij found in the area as re-



The fallen included Havildar Manzoor Hussain (35, District Ghazni), Sepoy Nauman Ilyas Kiyani (23, District Poonch), Sepoy Muhammad Adil (24, District Kasur), Sepoy Shah Jehan (25, District Vehari), and Sepoy Ali Asghar (25, District Pak Pattan), who embraced martyrdom while fighting gallantly.

"It is significant to

It added that Pakistan had consistently been asking the Interim Afghan Government to ensure effective border management on their side of the border and is expected to fulfill its obligations of the Doha Agreement and deny the use of Afghan soil by Khwarij against Pakistan.

lentless counter-terrorism campaign under vision.

"Arm e Isteikhdam" (as approved by Federal Apex Committee on National Action Plan) by the security forces and law enforcement agencies of Pakistan will continue at full pace to wipe out the menace of foreign sponsored and supported terrorism from the country, it said.

FEU Noshki Seizes 300 Kg of Meth Worth Rs18.67b

News Desk: In a major counter-narcotics operation, the Field Enforcement Unit (FEU) Noshki confiscated more than 300 kilograms of Methamphetamine (commonly known as Ice) carrying an estimated street value of Rs18.67 billion, according to official sources on Saturday.

Following directives from the Assistant Collector FEU Noshki, enforcement personnel intercepted a Hino truck en route from Iftan to Quetta. Upon an extensive search, the team discovered a custom-built fuel tank discreetly installed beneath the rear chassis of the vehicle.

A meticulous inspection of the tank led to the discovery of multiple boxes wrapped in plastic sheets, containing a suspicious crystal-



line substance. The two individuals on board failed to furnish any credible explanation regarding the consignment.

The detainees were identified as Babul, son of Dil Murad, and Amin Baloch, son of Hussain, both residents of

Hoshab Tehsil, Kech District, Turbat. The truck and recovered material were transported to the FEU headquarters, where verification confirmed the substance to be Methamphetamine (Ice) weighing approximately 300 kilograms.

The cumulative value of the seized narcotics and vehicle has been estimated at around Rs18.67 billion. Authorities have registered an FIR, taken the suspects into custody, and initiated a comprehensive investigation to trace the wider trafficking network.

MDCAT 2025: 140,000 Students Compete for 22,000 Medical Seats

Health Desk: ISLAMABAD: More than 140,000 aspiring doctors and dentists are appearing today (Sunday) for the Medical and Dental Colleges Admission Test (MDCAT 2025), competing for just 22,000 seats in public and private medical and dental colleges across Pakistan.

The nationwide entry test is being conducted simultaneously at 32 examination centres, including an international centre in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) is overseeing the process to ensure transparency and fairness.

Universities Conducting MDCAT 2025
Several major institutions are organizing

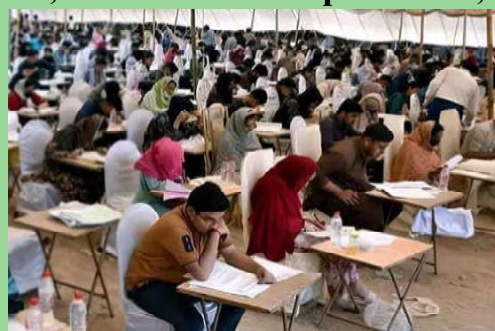
the MDCAT, including: University of Health Sciences (UHS), Lahore Sukkur IBA University, Sindh Khyber Medical University (KMU), Peshawar

Bolan University of Medical and Health Sciences, Quetta
Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (SZABMU), Islamabad

Strict Security and Fairness Measures

PMDC President Dr. Rizwan Taj confirmed that all universities had finalized comprehensive arrangements for the fair, transparent, and secure conduct of the MDCAT 2025.

"All institutions have been instructed to ensure transparency and fairness. Examination centres are



equipped with mobile jammers to block unauthorized electronic devices," said Dr. Taj.

Each venue has been set up with comfortable seating arrangements, climate control

systems, and drinking water facilities to accommodate candidates under optimal conditions.

Transparency Protocols and Paper Security

Dr. Taj emphasized that strict protocols have been implemented to maintain exam integrity and record-keeping. Bubble sheets with carbon copies have been provided to candidates.

Question papers are to be opened only in the presence of witnesses.

After the test, answer sheets will be securely collected and stored.

Original examination papers will be retained by universities for at least 12 months after result declaration.

MDCAT Answer Key and Result Date

According to PMDC, the official MDCAT 2025 answer key will be uploaded on university websites immediately after the test.

The final results are expected to be released within one week, followed by a post-hoc analysis report within 10 days of result announcement.

Additionally, candidates will be able to request rechecking of their marks within three days after the result declaration.

MDCAT 2025 – A Highly Competitive Test

With over 140,000 students vying for just 22,000 seats, MDCAT remains one of the most competitive entrance exams in Pakistan. The PMDC has reiterated its commitment to ensuring a merit-based, transparent, and corruption-free admission process for future medical and dental professionals.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Balochistan's Climate Fund – A Lifeline Against Growing Disasters



Editorial: Balochistan has taken a historic and timely step by establishing its first-ever Climate Fund, a move that signals the province's recognition of the existential threat posed by global warming and climate change. In his recent meeting with British High Commissioner Jane Marriott, Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti rightly underscored the urgency of mobilizing resources to safeguard communities from natural calamities that are growing in frequency and intensity.

Floods In Ruhr

The tragic flash floods in the Buner area of Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa this month, which claimed precious human lives, are a grim reminder of Pakistan's extreme vulnerability. The province sits on a fragile ecological and seismic zone prone not only to floods but also to recurring droughts, earthquakes, and the looming threat of desertification. Each disaster further strains an already fragile infrastructure, displaces

communities, and deepens poverty.

Stop Deforestation

The Climate Fund, if implemented transparently and effectively, has the potential to become a lifeline for millions.

It can provide the financial base for disaster preparedness, early warning systems, reforestation, water management, and community resilience projects. Equally important, it can build trust between the government and people by showing that saved resources — like the Rs. 14 billion curtailed from non-developmental expenditures — are being invested in protecting lives and livelihoods.

The Battle Cannot Be Fought Alone

However, climate change is not a battle that Balochistan can fight alone. Partnerships with international agencies, such as the United Kingdom, are essential in bringing technical expertise, innovative solutions, and funding support. Training local institutions, particularly in areas like disaster management

and environmental governance, should be a top priority.

The provincial government's commitment to reforms in governance, education, and healthcare is commendable, but the climate emergency must remain at the center of its development agenda. Without climate resilience, all other reforms risk being washed away by the next flood or crippled by the next drought.

Balochistan has shown leadership by creating this Climate Fund. The next step is to ensure that it does not become another underutilized policy initiative. Effective monitoring, independent oversight, and community involvement will be key to making it a success.

In the face of global warming, every delay carries a cost in human lives and economic stability. The Chief Minister must now take all possible steps to translate the promise of the Climate Fund into tangible protections for the people of Balochistan.

Syed Mansoor Ahmed

Climate change steams unbeatable challenges in the future. According to the World Bank report, Pakistan stands 6th in affect of climate change. The awful and deadly floods of 2010, and 2011, extremely dry weather in a rainy area, and fluctuation in actual climate

pendant on water flow from the Indus river.

Glacial flood outburst also poses a serious threat to the country's climate in the Karakoram range. The sole aim was reaching and understanding the possible nodes of surge-type glaciers, which are characterized by unsteady movements and frequent frontal

of climate change in the center of freshwater. The lake flooding displaced more than 6,000 people from upstream villages and inundated over 19 kilometers of the Karakoram Highway.

Recently, global warming and subsequent climate change have increased the constant state of fear and the risk of massive

ice barriers in the running rivers due to frontal advance, near to the densely populated areas of the Karakoram region. By constant observation of the prevailing climate change, it is ailing the endless future threat only due to the GLOFs. For instance, the Indus River System (IRS) is

ing with a potential corridor through the Karakoram Highway from Khunjerab to the seaport at Gwadar in Balochistan (CPEC) on the Indian Ocean. Therefore, the smooth running of the traffic on the roads is the keynote for progressive economic development. While the ice barriers in rivers due to frontal advance



mate pattern is alarming and despairing signs among all the dwellers of the town.

Climate Change and Agriculture in Pakistan

In addition, Pakistan is a semi-arid country. The focal and dependent source of water is from the snow-covered Himalayan and the Karakoram in the Northern Areas. Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, and the Sutlej rivers flow through this area. Within the water calculus, the country's entire agriculture is de-

advances of glaciers. As result, it causes natural hazards by obstructing river channels, forming ice-dammed lakes, which will ultimately cause GLOFs and pose threats downstream of the water. After meaningful analysis, it revealed that a surge between 1998 and 2002 generated 6 GLOFs.

Damages by Climate Change:

Meanwhile, rigorous critical exploration of the Attabad Lake of Hunza Valley in Gilgit-Baltistan is the distinctive event to justify the future threats

outburst flooding in the respective mountainous region. The comprehensive field evidence, local testimonies by the natives, modern applications of remote sensing, and cross-correlation feature-tracking techniques provides the improved understanding of glacier surges and ice-dam formation disclosed the scale future threat.

Glaciers in Pakistan:

It is also noted, historically, in the Karakoram Range 39 glaciers are responsible for ice-dam formation. On the other hand, 36 glaciers build

the jugular vein of irrigation in Pakistan. It is providing water for almost 90% of the food product in Pakistan.

The ice-dam formation due to the GLOFs will slow down the water flowing pace downstream. And could raise a deep impasse among the units for water distribution formula. In the end,

it will ultimately surface the challenge of food insecurity in Pakistan.

The Karakoram Range, more importantly, is the home of the anticipated One Belt One Road Initiative (OBOR) by giving

could inundate the blacktops of the Karakoram Highway. The dislocation and dissolution of roads will give birth to never-ending challenges due to the factor of GLOFs. In the same run, these lakes and GLOFs attracted media, political, and scientific attention because of the repeated outburst of floods. So, it needs the heart blood as well as collective effective efforts to bring down the scale of the future threat without causing infinite miseries.

The writer is a Public Policy Analyst and Lecturer at BUET, Khuzdar.

Artificial Intelligence Just Taking Baby Steps

Syed Muhammad Qasim

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the simulation of human intelligence in computer-based systems. In simple words, AI enables machines to perform tasks that require human intelligence. These tasks can be learning from past experiences, solving problems, and making predictions based on provided data. Until now, AI has just started taking baby steps but it is growing at a much rapid rate.

Every invention had various positive and negative impacts on human civilization. According to Google's CEO, Sundar Pichai "AI will have a more profound impact on human beings than fire, electricity, and the internet". This innovation also has both positive and negative impacts on human beings. If it is left unchecked it will have adverse impacts on human creativity, the job market, and the flow of information. However, the positive use of AI will bring major advancements in medical science, education, agriculture, etc. In the following paragraphs, the impacts of AI on humans are described.

Negative Impacts of AI:

AI is a technological tool and its use can be both positive and negative, although, it is in the hands of human beings on how to use it. Following are some negative impacts of AI on humans.

Deep Fakes Through Generative AI:

In the age of information technology,

misinformation is a major issue. The introduction of generative AI into public space has further worsened the predicament of information flow. Through generative AI, deep fakes are generated. These deep fakes are difficult to judge, as original or fake, for a person who has no knowledge of AI. The deep fakes can be an image, a video, or a voice note. Recently, in Slovakia's 2023 elections, a fake voice of a party's leader and a journalist was shared on social media, in which they were talking about purchasing votes from the poor population. This voice badly reduced the vote bank of that party during elections.

Another example of the deep fakes that created uncertainty was pictures of the former US president, Donald Trump's arrest, which provoked his supporter's sentiments against the state. Furthermore, if the use of generative AI is left unchecked, bad actors in society will use it for their own purposes and spread wrong information.

AI's use in War

Using AI for the purpose of AI will have a grave threat to the mankind. With only a few clicks and in some seconds, an AI program can write a book, a novel, a poem, an assignment and an article. Furthermore, it can sing a song, draw a painting, solve a problem, and make a prediction. On the other side, it takes much effort and time for a human to do

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is a Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and essence in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so



rapidly that it has posed a grave threat to the creativity of God's humankind. With only a few clicks and in some seconds, an AI program can write a book, a novel, a poem, an assignment and an article. Furthermore, it can sing a song, draw a painting, solve a problem, and make a prediction. On the other side, it takes much effort and time for a human to do

all these tasks. Due to the lazy and comfort-seeking nature of human beings, now they mostly rely on AI to perform these tasks. With the passage of time AI is learning more skills and human's reliance on AI is further increasing. This increase in reliance on AI will cause the death of creativity in humans.

AI and Job Market

"AI is coming to take your job", this news was seen on

nor have sleep problems, consequently, companies are manufacturing AI-driven cars to avoid road accidents. Journalists and content writers demand huge salaries for their work, while ChatGPT is a free AI app that can do the same tasks freely and quickly. More interestingly, AI will replace its own founders (Software Engineers) who developed AI, as AI can write

positively. AI can Revolutionize the Medical Field AI along with synthetic biology can transform the world shaped until now. AI and synthetic biology can eradicate debilitating diseases, and find treatments for pandemics, thus providing health benefits. AI has also made a lot of achievements in the field of surgery. Last year, an AI robot performed a successful

egg surgery in which the inner layer of an egg was stitched. Additionally, an AI Chatbot can also prescribe medicines and treatment for a disease based on the provided symptoms. In the coming years, AI will further advance itself in the medical field and people will take numerous benefits from it.

Positive Impacts of AI:

Along with negative impacts, AI can also be advantageous for humans if used for welfare purposes. In the following paragraphs, some advantages of AI are described if AI is used

also capable of identifying soil conditions, plant diseases, weather forecasts, and when plants need to be irrigated. Moreover, AI can analyze the market's supply and demand chain. AI will be efficient in saving the loss of water during irrigation. Secondly, it will provide a suitable environment for the plants to grow through maintaining

soil fertility and water needs. To sum up, equipping agriculture with AI systems will boost agricultural production and prevent heavy water losses. Recommendations for the Pakistani Government

The world has entered into the race of AI development. Fortunately, Pakistan has a huge human resource, but making them skillful in the field of AI is a hard task to do. All provincial governments should include AI in the school curriculum. There should be an AI portal for students, from where they can get updates about AI developments around the globe and jobs announced by the government. Furthermore, universities must be directed to increase practical work in AI rather than theoretical.

Conclusion

In conclusion, AI nevertheless advantageous, poses a grave threat to human civilization. If AI is left unchecked, it can spread misinformation through deep fakes, worsen the status quo of security dilemmas, cause the death of human creativity, and take jobs. So, all countries should sit on a single platform and form laws to control the development and introduction of AI tools in public space. In addition, AI companies should include a watermark to the content generated through AI to cope with misinformation. In the end, AI will be more hazardous if it gets consciousness and moves physically freely without being dependant on humans.

Students protest outside MDCAT centres after being denied entry in Rawalpindi

RAWALPINDI (INP): Several students appearing in MDCAT exam have complained that they were not allowed to enter various examination centres in Rawalpindi.

According to stu-

dents, they reached the examination centre after completing the relevant documents, but were not allowed to enter due to a few minutes' delay. There is a fear that all their hard work will be wasted due to the in-

difference of the administration. The Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) 2025 was held across the country on Sunday. According to the Pakistan Medical and

Dental Council (PMDC), as many as 140,125 candidates from across the country participated in the exam. An international centre was also established in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

As many as 33,000 students are taking part in the MDCAT examination in Karachi, Central Incharge Dr Sharjeel de-sealed MDCAT papers in Dow Campus of Karachi.

The Medical and Dental College Admission test is also commenced in Lahore. Examination centres were established in the Township, Gulberg and Model Town. Section 144 was also imposed in the provincial metropolis due to the

MDCAT. In Larkana, more than 3,000 students appeared in the MDCAT examinations being held in IBA Centre in Sukkur for admission in Benazir Bhutto Medical College, Larkana.

As many as 1153 students are appearing in the MDCAT examination at Khawaja Farid University, Rahim Yar Khan. Section 144 was also imposed in Rahim Yar Khan due to the examina-



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Health Syed Mustafa Kamal and Provincial Minister for Health Badar Muhammad Kakar speaking on the sidelines of the 22nd Health Asia International Exhibition and Conference in Karachi.

Trump credits Qatar for key role in advancing Gaza peace plan

DOHA (INP): United States President Donald Trump has thanked Qatar for its critical role in mediating ceasefire efforts in Gaza, as discussions on the next phase of the Washington-led peace plan continue.

Trump met Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani aboard Air Force One during a refuelling stop in the Gulf nation en route to Malaysia.

"We've done a lot together, especially in the last year," Trump said alongside the Qatari leaders. "What we've done is incredible — peace to the Middle East — and they were a

very big factor in it, so I just want to thank you." In a post on X, Emir Sheikh Tamim expressed satisfaction with the meeting, calling it "a good opportunity to discuss peace plans in the Middle East, follow up on efforts to solidify the agreement to end the war in Gaza, and explore prospects for strategic cooperation between our two friendly nations."

According to the Qatar News Agency, the leaders also discussed "supporting peace in the region, consolidating the agreement to end the war in Gaza, and ensuring the parties' implementation of all its provisions."

The talks come amid ongoing efforts by the Trump administra-

tion to implement the second phase of the Gaza peace plan. Several senior officials, including Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio, visited Israel earlier this week to ensure compliance with the truce and discuss next steps.

Trump assured reporters that the ceasefire remains intact but warned that any violations would be met with swift action. "If not, Hamas will not be held to take care of it. It will be very quickly."

But I hope it holds for Hamas, too, because they gave us their word on something," he said. Proposal for international stabilisation force

The US president

also suggested that Qatari troops, along with personnel from other countries, could join an "international stabilisation force" to maintain security in Gaza.

"We have 59 countries. We have a lot of countries that are signed on," Trump stated. "This should be an enduring peace."

He added that leadership roles within the force are currently being finalized and that deployment could begin "pretty quickly."

Despite diplomatic progress, Israel has continued its strikes on Gaza, with at least one person killed and four others injured in recent attacks. Meanwhile, aid deliveries remain restricted, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis in the territory.

Pakistan players cleared to play BBL after NOC uncertainty

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan players with deals in the BBL have been given approval to join the competition after concerns they would be caught up in the PCB's refusal to issue No Objection Certificates for overseas tournaments.

In late September, the PCB's chief operating officer Sumair Ahmad Syed sent a notice informing players and agents of the board's decision to stop players joining T20 leagues. However, on Saturday, Cricket Australia chief executive Todd Greenberg confirmed the Pakistan players would arrive for the BBL as scheduled.

"That came through last week," Greenberg said. "So they'll all be playing, they've all been cleared to play, which we're really excited about because we've got some great Pakistan players in the BBL, so looking forward to seeing them here this summer."

Babar Azam (Sydney Sixers), Shaheen Shah Afridi

(Brisbane Heat), Hasan Ali (Adelaide Strikers), Mohammad Rizwan (Melbourne Renegades), Harris Rauf (Melbourne Stars) and Shadab Khan (Sydney Thunder) are those with deals for the tournament that begins on December 14 and runs to January 25.

An eagerly anticipated head-to-head are the contests between Babar and Shaheen which will take place on January 5 and 18. The Pakistan players will also come up against R Ashwin when they face Sydney Thunder, while he and Shadab will be in the same squad.

Thunder's signing of Ashwin was a significant moment for the BBL, with the deal becoming season-long after he was not bought at the ILT20 auction.

It has prompted talk of whether more Indian players later in their careers will follow Ashwin's path of retiring to explore overseas opportunities, with Virat Kohli's name naturally high on the list even though he has given few clues about

his future.

"Short, medium term I think it is realistic over time," Greenberg said of whether more Indian players could join the league. "We're going to keep the dialogue open. I think that Ravichandran Ashwin coming is a really important moment for the BBL so that we can compete on the global stage."

We're a small domestic market here, but we're competing globally and to do that we've got to be the best version of ourselves."

A critical extension of that is keeping hold of the best Australian players. A report in Nine newspapers earlier this month said that Pat Cummins and Travis Head had turned down AS10 million offers to sign long-term deals with one of the IPL franchises which has teams around the world.

Greenberg did not have significant concerns about the current group of senior Australian players walking away but said that it could develop into a major issue for the next generation.

and globally, can play in the BBL," Greenberg said.

"That costs money because players have leverage and opportunity to play all over the world. That's one of the primary drivers [for] why we would consider bringing private capital into the BBL so that we can compete on the global stage. We're a small domestic market here, but we're competing globally and to do that we've got to be the best version of ourselves."

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India's invasion of Kashmir root cause of conflict, unrest in SA: Altaf Wani

ISLAMABAD (INP): Acting Chairman Jammu and Kashmir National Front Altaf Hussain Wani has said that 27 October was the darkest day in Kashmir's recent history. India's naked aggression on this fateful day in 1947 is the root cause of the Kashmir conflict that continues to threaten peace and stability in the South Asian region even after the passage of 78 years," Wani said in a statement issued here today. This act of aggression, he said, had not only created hurdles in the way of the partition plan but also pushed the entire region into a quagmire of chaos and instability. "The bloodshed that India started in occupied Jammu and Kashmir in

1947 is still going on unabated," the Front leader said, adding that innocent people are still being killed with impunity. Referring to India's history of colonizing Kashmir, he said that the settler-colonial policies of India have instilled a sense of fear among Kashmiris who feel increasingly unsafe even in their homeland. The conflict, he said, has now assumed dangerous proportions after the BJP-led regime stripped the region of its special status guaranteed under Article 370 of the Indian constitution. Terming India's military occupation of Kashmir a great threat to regional peace and stability, Wani said it was alarming that world powers have been ignoring this dangerous aspect of the long-drawn conflict.

Urging influential world governments and institutions to take effective notice of the matter, he said, "The dispute, if left unresolved, is bound to consume more precious lives besides fuelling unrest in this highly volatile region." He lamented that along with using its repressive state apparatus, the Indian rulers have been employing colonial tactics to crush the Kashmiris' legitimate political aspirations and silence democratic dissent in the region. "Not with standing its commitments on Kashmir, successive Indian governments have unabashedly pursued a policy of deceit and deception to neutralize the Kashmiris' legitimate struggle for the right to self-determination," he

added. He noted that the UNSC resolutions, which call for a free and impartial plebiscite in the region, were endorsed by the Indian representative in the UN Security Council, particularly then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. Referring to the recent confrontation between India and Pakistan, which brought the two nuclear neighbours to the brink of war, Wani said that the unresolved dispute remains a constant threat to peace and stability in the region.

He said it was high time the global community took cognizance of India's prolonged military occupation of the disputed territory and played its role in settling the conflict peacefully in accordance with the UNSC resolutions.

US troops head toward Venezuela amid Trump's push against Maduro

WASHINGTON (INP): The United States has deployed B-1 supersonic bombers to the coast of Venezuela, strengthening its military presence in the Caribbean amid rising tensions with the regime of President Nicolas Maduro.

The Pentagon reported that the B-1s took off from Dyess Air Force Base in Texas and flew over the Caribbean

Sea toward the Venezuelan coast as part of routine training exercises. Meanwhile, a US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that the flights took place near Venezuela's shores but did not specify whether the aircraft entered the country's airspace.

The B-1 Lancer is capable of carrying the largest weapons payload of any US Air Force air-

craft, including long-range cruise missiles. At the same time, a US official, speaking to journalists on condition of anonymity confirmed that the flights took place near Venezuela's shores but did not specify whether the aircraft entered the country's airspace.

US military activity in the region has intensified since September — that's when American forces began striking vessels allegedly used for drug trafficking near Venezuelan waters, according to President Donald Trump.

The operations sparked speculation that Washington might be preparing a large-scale mission against the regime of Nicolas Maduro, whom the US accuses of narco-terrorism.

27 OCTOBER
یوم سیاہ

کشمیر بنے گا پاکستان

ایل کشمیر اور پاکستان، یکدل، یک جان

کشمیر

#KashmirBlackDay

فیڈ مارشل
سید عاصم منیر

وزیراعظم
محمد شہباز شریف

میں کشمیری عوام کو یقین دلانا چاہتا ہوں کہ میرا دل پاکستانی عوام سے ہے۔ ایل کشمیر اور پاکستان، یکدل، یک جان۔

27 اکتوبر 2025



NOSHKI: IG Police Balochistan Muhammad Tahir addressing officers and soldiers at the police court on the occasion of his visit.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi meets British HC, acting US ambassador

ISLAMABAD (INP): Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday held separate meetings with British High Commissioner (HC) Jane Marriott and Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) at the US embassy in Islamabad.

Natalie A. Baker, and discussed with them overall regional situation and matters of mutual interest. Discussions were also held on increasing cooperation for combating narcotics and human smuggling and

for security purposes. Naqvi thanked the British government for allowing the resumption of flight operation from Pakistan to the UK after a gap of five years.

The British HC, on the occasion, in-

formed the interior minister about the UK's National Crime Agency director general's (DGI) visit to Pakistan next month. During the DGI's visit, memorandums of understanding (MoUs) would be signed in the fields of immigration

and anti-narcotics. Naqvi expressed the hope that the Center of Excellence launched in collaboration with the British high commission would play a useful role in increasing the capacity of institu-

tions in Pakistan. The center will help enhance cooperation between both countries in matters related to extradition and others," he added.

He also renewed the government of Pakistan's pledge to continue to work with

the international community in the war on terror. Speaking on the occasion, Jane said that her country attached great importance to its relations with Pakistan.

During his meeting with Natalie Baker,

the latter said that Pakistan's efforts for the elimination of terrorism were praiseworthy. She expressed the desire for increased cooperation with Pakistan in the fields of security and the war on terror.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses the ceremony of restoration of domestic connections of Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas.

Pakistan, Iran agree on new trade and transport cooperation

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan and Iran have taken a major step forward in strengthening bilateral ties, agreeing to launch joint initiatives in logistics, trade, and transport. The decision came during high-level talks in Islamabad between federal ministers from both countries.

Federal Ministers Abdul Aleem Khan, Jam Kamal Khan, and Hanif Abbasi met with Iranian Minister Farzana Sadiq, who is currently visiting Pakistan.

During the meeting, both sides agreed to establish a joint committee aimed at resolving trade challenges along the Paki-

stan-Iran border. The committee will present its report within a week, signaling both governments' commitment to swift action.

Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan directed the early clearance of Iranian trucks at border points and offered Iran direct access to China and other countries through Pakistan's strategic trade corridors.

The move is seen as a step toward enhancing regional connectivity and expanding Iran's trade routes. Both countries agreed to restore the Quetta-Zahedan railway track, which

serves as a critical trade link between Pakistan and Iran. Moreover, it was decided that the long-discussed Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul train project will be reviewed in December, indicating renewed momentum on regional transport projects.

Railways Minister Hanif Abbasi emphasized the importance of accelerating the implementation of the agreement signed with Iran in September. Meanwhile, the Iranian minister called for increased maritime cooperation between Chabahar and Gwadar ports, appreciating Abdul Aleem Khan's "dynamic

role" in fostering regional ties. Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan expressed Pakistan's desire to increase bilateral trade volume with Iran to \$10 billion, reflecting growing optimism about regional economic integration. The Iranian minister, in turn, invited Abdul Aleem Khan to visit Iran again, underlining Tehran's intent to sustain the positive momentum.

Abdul Aleem Khan reiterated that Pakistan remains committed to promoting regional trade, connectivity, and mutual relations, adding that both countries are "coming closer after a long time."

Experts call for coherent border management policy with Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (INP): Panelists at a roundtable discussion have stressed that Pakistan must develop a long-term, coherent border management policy and engage with a broader spectrum of Afghan society, including the Afghan diaspora, and move beyond an exclusive reliance on the Taliban.

The experts also delved into the complex internal dynamics of the Taliban regime, identified as a key obstacle to resolving the issue of anti-Pakistan groups, which operate from the Afghan soil.

The recently brokered Doha agreement, with Qatar and Turkey as guarantors, was cited as a potentially more effective mechanism for mediation and dialogue.

The implications of the ongoing tensions were also analyzed from both economic and geopolitical angles.

The Beaconhouse National University (BNU) Center for Policy Research (BCPR) hosted this critical roundtable discussion titled "Pakistan-Afghanistan Escalation: Causes, Implications and Way Forward."

The event convened leading experts on Afghanistan-Pakistan relations to dissect the unprecedented downturn in relations between the two neighboring nations and to explore viable pathways toward de-escalation and sustainable dialogue. The discussion, facilitated by Ambassador Mansoor Ahmad Khan, Director of BCPR, featured insights from prominent panelists, including Dr. Tahir Kamran, Dean School

for Liberal Arts & Social Sciences at BNU, journalists Mr. Tahir Khan and Mr. Hassan Khan, who have extensive experience covering Afghanistan, and Dr. Syed Hussain Shaheed Soherwordi, professor of International Relations, from the University of Peshawar. The dialogue centered on the severe tensions that have escalated since the Taliban's return to power in Kabul in August 2021, with a primary focus on the critical issue of cross-border terrorism perpetrated by groups like the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), according to a BCPR's press release.

A central theme of the roundtable was the debate over the recent conflict between Pakistan and Afghanistan Taliban regime. Panelists agreed that the economic fallout is disproportionately severe for landlocked Af-

ghanistan, which relies on Pakistan for 80% of its trade. However, a significant political risk for Pakistan is the potential for Afghanistan to move closer to India, creating a strategic "sandwich" effect. On the way forward, the panel emphasized the urgent need for confidence-building measures (CBMs) such as reopening border crossings to alleviate economic hardship on both sides.

Dr. Soherwordi pointed to internal divisions within the Taliban, between the liberal Haqqani Group and the conservative Kandhari Group, and their fear that acting against the TTP could push its members to join the more ruthless Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKAP). This internal "Catch-22" situation, as described by Hassan Khan, severely limits the Taliban's capacity or willingness to rein in the

TTP. Panelists provided context on the growing India-Taliban engagement, noting that certain statements made by Afghan officials in India had crossed Pakistan's "red lines."

In conclusion, the roundtable underscored the profound challenges and high stakes in the Pakistan-Afghanistan relationship.

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Balochistan's progress key to Pakistan's prosperity, says PM Shehbaz

ISLAMABAD (INP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday emphasized that all provinces of Pakistan are part of one family and that the people of Balochistan must be made equal partners in the country's development. He said that Balochistan's progress is directly linked to Pakistan's overall prosperity.

Addressing participants of the National Workshop Balochistan, the PM said that Balochistan is

Pakistan's largest province by area, and that Baloch leaders had voluntarily decided to join Pakistan. He added that Balochistan's culture, history, and traditions make it unique and distinguished. The PM stated that God has blessed Balochistan with immense natural resources, but regretted that its wealth still lies buried underground. He said that decades of neglect toward Balochistan should serve as a moment of self-reflection. He lauded the Baloch people as gener-

ous and hospitable, stressing that Balochistan's development is inseparable from Pakistan's collective prosperity. He also noted that lasting harmony has historically existed among the province's diverse communities, and that the spirit of the federation lies in mutual sacrifice and brotherhood.

PM Shehbaz further said that the province's geographic terrain poses challenges to its development, particularly in providing electricity and clean water to

remote populations. Referring to the 2010 NFC Award, he highlighted that Punjab made a historic sacrifice, demonstrating that consensus among provinces forms the foundation of a strong Pakistan.

He also acknowledged the sacrifices of the security forces working tirelessly to maintain peace, noting that Pakistan had eliminated terrorism completely in 2018, but terrorist activities are once again re-emerging in Balochistan and other regions.

PTI leader slams Federal Govt over unjust allegations against KP CM

PESHAWAR (INP): In a pointed critique aired on a private TV channel, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Shaukat Yousafzai accused the federal government of sabotaging efforts to foster better relations with Balochistan. He leveled baseless accusations against Chief Minister Sohail Afridi and blocking his meeting with PTI founder Imran Khan.

Yousafzai, speaking on a prime-time program, urged the Shehbaz Sharif-led administration to adopt "positive steps" if it genuinely seeks improved ties with the PTI-governed province. He highlighted a series of grievances, including the federal government's failure to apologize for branding Afridi a "terrorist," facilitator, and extortion

mafia" allegations that he claimed, have poisoned the atmosphere and forced provincial leaders into confrontation. "The PML-N does not know what they want from the series they started," Yousafzai remarked, referring to what he described as a deliberate campaign against Afridi from the outset. "They made so many allegations that he could not understand that he should sit with the federation. Since Sohail Afridi has become the Chief Minister, he also needs to meet; he wants to go and sit with Imran Khan and talk."

The PTI stalwart pointed to the ongoing administrative limbo in KP, where key decisions are being withheld at the secretary level without a

formalized cabinet. He also decried the federal government's disregard for a court ruling mandating a meeting between the two leaders.

KP chief minister and Imran Khan, who remains incarcerated amid ongoing legal battles. Yousafzai alleged that the administration is "deliberately" obstructing the proposed meeting, using it as leverage in a broader political standoff.

"On the one hand, the federal government is feeling the pain of 45 million people," he said, alluding to KP's population, "and on the other hand, they are not arranging a meeting." The remarks come amid heightened tensions between the center and the province, exacerbated by PTIs pro-

tests over Imran Khan's detention and the fallout from the May 9 riots and subsequent November 26 events – dates the federal government frequently invokes, according to Yousafzai, as its only resort in political discourse.

"Why is Sohail Afridi not being allowed to meet the founder?" Yousafzai questioned rhetorically. "What will happen if the Chief Minister meets the founder and finalizes the cabinet name? First they accuse him of facilitating terrorists, then they say sit together to eliminate terrorism."

No apology was even offered for the allegations made against Sohail Afridi. He warned that such provocations are "forcing people to take to the streets."



LAHORE: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Engr. Amir Muqam addressing Kashmir Black Day press conference along with APHC leader Syed Faiz Nageeb and Coordinator to PM Shahr Ahmed Usmani.

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