



No negligence in PTI founder's medical treatment: Rana Sanaullah



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Pakistan ready to work with all nations for peace, sustainable development: President

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Friday highlighting the rapid changes facing the world, ranging from geopolitical shifts and hybrid threats to cybersecurity, reiterated that, amidst all such challenges, Pakistan stood ready to work with all nations to build understanding, peace and sustainable development. The president, during the interactive session with the participants of the 6th International Workshop for Leadership and Stability 2026, felicitated them at the conclusion of the workshop. The workshop was attended by around 100 participants, including 69 hailing from different 49 countries.

President highlighted that the world was currently facing rapid changes, with geopolitical shifts, emerging security threats and the growing role of technology in governance. "Security is no longer only about conventional conflicts. It includes cybersecurity, hybrid threats and information challenges. At the same time, climate change, resource scarcity and disinformation cross borders, demanding collaborative solutions," the president emphasized in his address. President Zardari urged the participants of the workshop to translate discussions into real-world solutions, choosing dialogue over division and cooperation over conflict. He commended the National Defence University (NDU) for organising this important forum.

Calling the leadership and stability the pillars of nations and institutions, the presi-



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari addresses the participants of the 6th International Workshop for Leadership and Stability (IWLs) during an interactive session at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Air Chief Marshal Sidhu meets with Indonesia President Subianto

PEAK POINT



RAWALPINDI: Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, NI (M), HI, Chief of Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force, during his official visit to Indonesia, called on President

Prabowo Subianto on Friday. During the meeting, the Air Chief underscored the shared values and longstanding brotherhood between Pakistan and Indonesia, said a press release issued here by Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). President Prabowo expressed keen interest in leveraging PAF's state-of-the-art training ecosystem and aerospace development infrastructure to enhance Indonesia's defence capabilities. Earlier, the Air Chief held separate high-level meetings with Defence Minister Lieutenant General (Retd) Sjafrie Sjamsuddin, Commander of the Indonesian National Armed Forces and Indonesian Air Marshal. He was accorded Guard of Honour at all venues. During the discussion with the Indonesian Air Chief, both sides discussed enhanced Air Force-to-Air Force cooperation, joint training from basic to advanced levels, professional exchanges.

UN extends mandate of Taliban sanctions monitoring team amid regional security concerns

PEAK POINT

NEW YORK: The UN Security Council on Thursday unanimously adopted a resolution extending by one year the mandate of the Monitoring Team that supports the 1988 Afghanistan Sanctions Committee, which oversees sanctions imposed on the Taliban. All 15 council members voted in favor of the US-drafted resolution, renewing the Monitoring Team's mandate until February 17, 2027. The extension comes amid mounting international concern over Afghanistan's deteriorating security situation, the growing influence of multiple terrorist groups, and the potential for regional destabilisation. Pakistan, which

supported the resolution, stressed the ongoing recent attacks that killed 80 people this month



threat posed by Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), ISIL-Khorasan (ISIL-K), Majeed Brigade, and Al-Qaeda. Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN, said these groups "have been responsible for some of the most heinous terrorist attacks against Pakistan," citing "Once again, Afghan soil was used by these groups to plan and orchestrate attacks against neighbouring countries," he said, urging the Taliban to prevent the use of Afghan territory for terrorist operations. "It is for the Taliban to decide what path they wish to choose for Afghanistan: whether the path to isolation or the path to peace and prosperity as a responsible member of the international community," he said. The ambassador also highlighted the council's concerns over the wider humanitarian situation in Afghanistan. "The resolution rightly emphasises the dire human rights conditions, particularly for women and girls, economic collapse, political exclusion, and the challenges posed by drug trafficking," he said. "Through this resolution, the council has sent a clear message that Afghan territory should not serve as a safe haven for terrorists and that all member states must prevent ransom payments or political concessions benefiting hostage.

DPM Dar speaks with Egyptian FM, discusses bilateral, regional matters

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday spoke with Foreign Minister of Egypt, Dr. Badr Abdelatty and exchanged views on bilateral relations and discussed regional and international matters of mutual interest. During the conversation, Ishaq Dar congratulated him on continuing in his role following the recent cabinet reshuffle and conveyed his best wishes for his continued success. A press release issued by the Foreign Office Spokesperson said.

First day of Ramadan likely to fall on February 19: Suparco

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: The Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (Suparco) said on Friday that the first day of Ramadan is "likely to fall" on February 19, 2026. The new moon is expected to be born on the evening of February 17, 2026, at 5:01pm, according to the statement by the space agency. "At the time of sunset on Feb 18, 2026, the age of the new moon will be approximately 25 hours and 48 minutes. The time duration between sunset and moonset is expected to be 59 minutes along the coastal areas of the country," added the Suparco statement.

Bangladesh's BNP wins sweeping election majority, promises stability

PEAK POINT

BANGLADESH: The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) won an overwhelming two-thirds majority on Friday in general elections, a result expected to bring stability after months of tumult following the ouster of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in a Gen Z-led uprising in 2024. Latest counts in a vote seen as the South Asian nation's first truly competitive election in years gave the BNP and its allies at least 212 of the 299 seats up for grabs, domestic TV channels said. The opposition Jamaat-i-Islami and its allies won 70 seats in the Jatiya Sangsad, or House of the Nation. Election Commission put the BNP at 181 seats, the Jamaat-i-



Islami at 61 and others at 7, with full official results not expected before noon (11am PKT) on Friday. The BNP, which returns to power after 20 years, thanked the people soon and called for special prayers on Friday for the nation and its people. "Despite winning ... by a large margin of votes, no celebratory procession or rally shall be organised," the party said in a statement. The National Citizen

Party (NCP), led by youth activists who played a key role in toppling Hasina and was a part of the Jamaat-led alliance, won just five of the 30 seats it contested. A clear outcome had been seen as key for stability in the Muslim-majority nation of 175 million after months of deeply anti-Hasina unrest throughout everyday life and industries such as garments, in the export of which Bangladesh is No.2 globally. BNP leader Tarique Rahman is widely expected to be sworn in as prime minister. The son of the party's founder, former president Ziaur Rahman, he returned in December to the capital, Dhaka, from 18 years abroad. In its manifesto, the BNP promised to prioritise job creation, protect low-income and marginal households and ensure fair prices to farmers. "If the factories run regularly and we get our wages on time.

Khaqan Abbasi, Miftah announce joining TTAP sit-in for Imran Khan

PEAK POINT



ISLAMABAD: Former PML-N leaders Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and Miftah Ismail have announced to participate in the sit-in planned by the opposition alliance Tehreek-i-Tahafuz-i-Ayecn-i-Pakistan (TTAP) outside Parliament House on Friday. Khaqan Abbasi and Miftah, who have launched their own Awam Pakistan party, took to social media platform X, former Twitter, to announce their participation in the sit-in after Friday prayers. "The leadership of Awam Pakistan — Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and Miftah Ismail — has decided that Awam Pakistan will participate fully in the sit-in organized by the Tehreek-e-Tahafuz-e-Aaen.

SPORTS

Zimbabwe pull off shock win over Australia at T20 World Cup



PEAK POINT Brad Evans ripped out Australia's who was named player of the game's great players, Maxwell, to drag on to his stumps for 31, they were never in the hunt and tumbled from 106-4 to 146 all out.

COLOMBO: Zimbabwe beat a depleted Australia by 23 runs on Friday in Colombo to pull off the biggest shock of the T20 World Cup so far.

After posting 169-2 in their 20 overs, thanks mainly to Brian Bennett's classy 64 not out, Zimbabwe had Australia 29-4 before dismissing them for 146 in 19.3 overs.

The Zimbabweans, ranked 11th have entered in control against their second-ranked opponents in the Group B game at R. Premadasa Stadium after opening bowlers Blessing Muzarabani and

Brad Evans ripped out Australia's who was named player of the game's great players, Maxwell, to drag on to his stumps for 31, they were never in the hunt and tumbled from 106-4 to 146 all out.

Opening batsman Bennett's unbeaten 64 off 56 balls was an exercise in controlled aggression as he rarely went the aerial route and found the boundary seven times.

It was the 22-year-old's 10th half-century in T20 internationals.

"It was the type of wicket you have to do the hard yards," said Bennett. Zimbabwe thrashed Oman in their opener and their last two group games will be against Ireland and Sri Lanka.

There were sensational scenes at the venue as a group of Zimbabwe fans dressed in their team jerseys celebrated the win with a traditional dance.

"It is a huge win for us," said Bennett.

"There are fans who have come all the way from Zimbabwe and they have enjoyed the game and it is a special feeling today to get this win here."

Muzarabani was the pick of the bowlers finishing with 4-17.

"I was really happy that today really came off," said Muzarabani,

Pakistan beat Nepal by 30 Runs in Women's Asia Cup Rising Stars



PEAK POINT

BANGKOK: Pakistan made a winning start to the Women's Asia Cup Rising Stars tournament by defeating Nepal in their opening match in Bangkok, Thailand.

After winning the toss, Nepal opted to field first and invited Pakistan to bat in the 20-over contest.

Pakistan posted a competitive total of 137 for 6 in their allotted overs. Captain Hafsa Khalid led from the front with an unbeaten 40 runs, while Waheeda Akhtar contributed a valuable 23 runs.

For Nepal, Kabita Kunwar claimed two wickets, while Manisha Upadhyay, Riya Sharma, Sita Rana Magar and Rubina Chhetry picked up one wicket each.

Chasing a target of 138, Nepal managed 107 for 6 in their 20 overs. Bindu Rawal scored 39 runs, while Kabita Kunwar remained unbeaten on 18.

Pakistan's bowlers maintained control throughout the innings, with Anosha Nasir taking three wickets.

Momina Riasat claimed two, and Waheeda Akhtar added one wicket to seal a comprehensive victory for Pakistan.

T20 World Cup: India and Pakistan fans flock to Colombo, windfall for tourism



PEAK POINT

COLOMBO: Prices of flights and hotel bookings to Colombo, Sri Lanka, have soared as thousands of fans flock to the city to watch India play Pakistan on Sunday in cricket's Twenty20 World Cup.

The neighbouring countries and cricket match, most hotels in Colombo have dou-

bled their prices — the cost of a room has climbed as high as \$660 a night from a typical price tag of about \$100-\$150 per night, multiple booking sites showed.

After the match was finalised this week, last-minute bookings led to fuller flights from major cities like Chennai and Delhi, according to three Colombo travel agencies.

Flights from Chennai, which is about one and a half hours away, have more than tripled to around \$623-\$756, while flights from Delhi are up more than 50 per cent to roughly \$666.

Nalin Jayasundera, President of Sri Lanka Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO), said hotels were booked out.

"Most fans are coming on all-inclusive packages that could be \$1,500-\$2,000 or even higher depending on ticket, hotel, and flight prices," Jayasundera said. Tourism is the third largest foreign exchange earner for Sri Lanka, famous for its ancient temples.

UAE clinch five-wicket victory over Canada in T20 World Cup thriller



Counsel General Hussain presents appreciation certificate to Taekwondo athlete Huraira

PEAK POINT

DUBAI: Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai Hussain Muhammad on Friday met with Syed Abu Huraira Shah, a talented young Pakistani international Taekwondo athlete who has represented Pakistan at various competitions.

In recognition of his contribution to promoting Pakistan's positive image abroad, the Consul General presented him with an appreciation certificate and conveyed his best wishes for continued success in future, a press release issued by the Pakistan embassy in Dubai said.

Counsel General Hussain presents appreciation certificate to Taekwondo athlete Huraira

Separately, a dinner was hosted in honour of Pakistani exhibitors participating in the World Health Expo (WHX) 2026, formerly Arab

Healthat at the Metropolitan Hotel, Dubai.

Consul General Hussain Muhammad along with Ali Zeb Khan, Trade & Investment Counsellor, and other officers of the Consulate, warmly welcomed the Pakistani exhibitors and appreciated their participation in one of the region's premier healthcare platforms.

The Consul General commended the exhibitors for



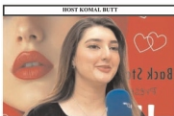
showcasing Pakistan's growing capabilities in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors and emphasized the importance of strengthening trade and investment linkages between Pakistan and the UAE. The event also provided an opportunity for Pakistani businessmen to interact, explore potential collaborations, and network with representatives of the healthcare industry based in the UAE.

Medals distributed across 7 disciplines on day 6 of 2026 Winter Olympics





“HAPPY HEARTS 2026”, organized under the inspiring theme of “Love, Peace & Care



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: A vibrant celebration of emotions, expression, and positive social values marked the grand event “HAPPY HEARTS 2026”, organized under the inspiring theme of “Love, Peace & Care.” The event beautifully blended music, performance, and fashion to promote social interaction, behavioral

change, and the moral uplift of society. The evening aimed to narrate heartfelt stories of love while guiding the audience toward the true path of peace — peace of mind, harmony in attitude, and a culture of care within the community. Host of the Evening The program was gracefully hosted by Komal Butt, who kept the audience engaged with her

confident stage presence and heartfelt reflections on love and unity. Participating Models. The fashion segment featured talented models who brought elegance and positive energy to the runway: Zara Rajput Rabeela Dua AliEmaan KhanMahi Khan Zufukh Alizayy Agha Sunali Komal ShehzadiMahaBeena Khan Chandni Ambreen Khan

Warda Hamza Each model presented designs reflecting the spirit of compassion, harmony, and emotional strength, symbolizing that fashion can also be a medium of meaningful social messaging. Special Performance. The highlight of the evening was a powerful musical performance by Harry Awan, whose soulful voice captivated the audience. His

performance echoed the event’s core message — spreading love, inspiring peace, and encouraging care through artistic expression. Message of the Event “HAPPY HEARTS 2026” was more than just a fashion and music show; it was a social initiative aimed at encouraging Positive social behavior Emotional well-

being Community bonding Moral and cultural values. The event concluded with a collective message that love is the strongest force for building a peaceful and caring society. If you want, I can also rewrite this in Urdu news style for your sports-style YouTube reporting tone.

1,800 Illegal buildings and over 1,000 acres retrieved as CDA details enforcement drive

NADEEM TANOLI
ISLAMABAD: A sweeping set of disclosures presented during a National Assembly question answer session has exposed the scale of enforcement, land recovery, infrastructure rollout, and regulatory action by the Capital Development Authority (CDA), including the retrieval of more than 1,400 acres of land, demolition of illegal commercial encroachments, forwarding of 1,800 buildings for sealing or demolition, and revenue auctions generating over Rs. 119.6 million annually. CDA confirmed that 10 hotels and motels along

Club Road had illegally developed parking facilities on green areas. A demolition drive was conducted on 06-08-2024 to remove the encroachments. Beyond commercial violations, large scale land recovery operations were disclosed. CDA retrieved 474 acres in Tarnol and 547 acres along the Islamabad Expressway. In Saidpur and the Margalla Hills area, 395 kanals were reclaimed. In Muslim Colony, 729 kanals were recovered, with 2,200 households shifted during the operation. The combined recovery from Tarnol and Expressway alone stands at 1,021 acres, while the total

reported land action spans thousands of kanals and acres across multiple zones. The Authority informed the Assembly that 1,800 buildings in Zones IV and V were identified for violations and have been forwarded for sealing or demolition action. This signals one of the largest documented enforcement drives against building irregularities in recent years. In Sector I-16, CDA reported that 2.46 kilometers of road carpeting has been completed along with 1.67 kilometers of TST (Triple Surface Treatment). However, 2.34 kilometers of road work remains pending approval. Street light instal-

lation in the sector is scheduled for completion by 30 June 2026. CDA also disclosed major revenue generation through commercial site auctions. The bus stand at G-9 Markaz has been auctioned for Rs. 81.60 million per annum, while the I-11 Mandi Morr bus stand has been auctioned for Rs. 38.00 million per annum. Together, these two sites alone generate Rs. 119.60 million annually for the Authority. In a policy shift aligned with environmental goals, CDA has notified the “Islamabad Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Policy,” making it mandatory for petrol pumps and new building

developments to install electric vehicle charging stations. The move places Islamabad formally on a structured EV transition path with regulatory backing. The Authority confirmed that the J&K Cooperative Housing Society’s NOC and layout plan for Zone-IV remain pending due to non-payment of scrutiny fees and incomplete documentation. Meanwhile, property tax is applicable to Bahria Enclave, and notices are being issued for enforcement. In Bhara Kabu, Mouza Kot Hathaly, 345 acres, 1 kanal and 15 marlas have been acquired. Compensation amounting to

Rs. 111.4 million has been paid, while Rs. 4.9 million remains pending. CDA clarified that 10 kachi abadis recognized between 1994 and 2004 are being upgraded. All other informal settlements are considered illegal under current regulations. On disaster management, CDA stated that the Capital Emergency Service has deployed dewatering pumps to tackle urban flooding and trained staff in water rescue operations. Training was conducted in collaboration with the Pakistan Navy and Blue Sky Rescue China, reflecting cross institutional preparedness measures.

Opinion & Editorial

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Broken food system

PAKISTAN grows enough food to fill stomachs. It does not grow enough to nourish bodies. That stark conclusion, drawn by the Food and Agriculture Organisation and other UN partners, should jolt policymakers out of complacency. Calories, the analysis shows, are not the same as nutrition. And Pakistan’s food system, though energy-efficient, is structurally skewed against healthy diets. The findings, presented at a national workshop on sustainable food systems, expose deep imbalances. Cereals, grains, sugar and edible oils are produced and consumed in excess of what dietary guidelines recommend. Meanwhile, fruits, vegetables, pulses and other nutrient-rich foods remain in short supply. The result is a cereal-heavy plate that may ward off hunger but quietly fuels malnutrition and disease. This imbalance is visible across both rural and urban Pakistan. Grains dominate consumption patterns everywhere, particularly in rural households. Milk is the second most consumed food group. Yet fruit intake is consistently low, and protein sources beyond dairy — including meat, poultry, eggs and pulses — remain inadequate. Pulses, which could serve as an affordable protein alternative, are not consumed in sufficient quantities to compensate for limited animal-source foods.

Price of atheism

Sadiq Karim Soofi
PERHAPS the most significant implication of atheism — at least of the naturalist variety — is the foregoing of objective morality. If all that exists in the naturalist worldview is physical matter, then only that physical matter can be real. Moral values and beliefs are mere constructions of the human mind. To say that anything is merely a product of the mind’s activity, with no independent existence beyond that, is to deny the objective reality of that thing. The atheist, therefore, cannot help but conclude that morality deals with subjective opinions, not objective facts. This view, that moral frameworks are merely agreements between human beings and nothing more, is widely popular today. However, this subjective conception of morality poses a serious challenge to our ordinary use of moral language and our innate understanding of the nature of moral beliefs. Let me explain. When we condemn the slaughter of innocent women and children in Gaza, we don’t say: this is wrong because, and only insofar as, I believe it to be wrong. No. We seem to say much more than that. What we really mean to say is: this is wrong, period. The religious man is justified in making moral claims. Something about our moral claim feels so true to us that we make a claim to its

objective truth. In that moment, morality is not something we have constructed through our interaction with each other. When we make moral claims, we reach out to a realm of being that is independent of human minds and their agreement. Look at it another way. Some moral claims are so obviously true that it is entirely conceivable for us that even if the entire world were to come together to say that those claims were wrong, it would do nothing to move us from our position. Thus, we treat morality as a matter of objective reality. Take the example of an elderly lady walking with the help of her walking stick. A gang of youthful men decide to kick the stick away. As she falls down, they proceed to laugh at her. It doesn’t take a book on ethics to tell us that what we have witnessed is plainly wrong. Something deep inside us bears witness to the reprehensibility of what we have seen. This is moral intuition. Guided by our innate moral intuition, we are compelled to treat morality as a matter of objective truths, and not as a matter of socially constructed values. When we ordinarily employ moral language, we call it forth with all its objective import. The problem is this: the atheist has no justification for treating morality thusly. Since moral values are not physical, to deny the objective reality of all that is non-physical is to deny the objec-

tive reality of moral values as well. Of course, an atheist may continue making objective moral claims. But the point is this: he wouldn’t be justified in making them. For how could he say anything more than this: ‘the slaughter of innocent women and children in Gaza is wrong, but only according to my subjective moral framework?’ The genocidal Zionist may turn around to him and say, ‘So what? I have a different moral framework.’ And that is where the matter must end. When morality is entirely subjective, there is no common standard, independent of two moral frameworks, that can help adjudicate between them. There is no open field of objective morality to which the Zionist may be invited and in which the atheist’s claim may be grounded. If the atheist is coherent and honest, he will pay the price of his atheism and will forgo objective morality, which is easier said than done. The religious man, on the other hand, is perfectly justified in making moral claims with the force of objective truth. He may continue saying to the genocidal Zionist: you are wrong, period! In the religious picture, there is no chasm between ‘is’ and ‘ought’. Everything that is necessarily has associated oughts. These duties are determined by the Creator who bestows things with their existence and maintains them in that state. Courtesy Dawn

Global West, East, and South

Sadam Hussain
It can be said that the structure of the world is not based on a single state’s economy or leadership. Instead, it depends on three spheres in which the global East is leaping forward as an emerging power of the twenty-first century, while the global South is attracting the attention of both West and East. Today, if China and the United States stand face to face, it is not because they share power with each other; rather, both stand at a juncture where each seeks to become superior to the other. However, both states maintain alliances with many countries across the world. China advances its Belt and Road Initiative and is also preparing to launch the second phase of the CPEC project in Pakistan. Similarly, the US maintains ties with numerous countries, including some that are also partners of China. It can be said that, unlike earlier periods of history, the global West and East cannot fight directly. China, North Korea and Russia share alliances and are nuclear powers; therefore, the United States will not attack any of these three states directly. For now, the US must shift its attention to Europe, which is in pursuit of its own security and defence, a concern greater for Washington than these aligned countries. If Europe slips from the hands of the US, it could damage American global standing. At present the US acts as a defender of the EU, yet permanent self-possession of security has become important for Europe. In this modern period, states increasingly seek deterrence. The EU maintains limited ties with Russia and India, whereas Trump imposed sanctions and restrictions on Russia and India. Meanwhile, China uses soft power to diversify its relations as widely as possible. China’s initiatives appear softer than those of other states, and it is therefore welcomed by many countries. It may have fewer partners than the US but not necessarily less power. China and Russia’s strategic ties appear threatening to the US. Courtesy The Nation

Pakistan calls for peaceful dispute resolution, respect for international law at UN parliamentary hearing



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has called for greater respect for international law and renewed efforts toward the peaceful settlement of longstanding disputes in line with the UN Charter and relevant Security Council resolutions, Senate Chairman Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani said during the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Annual Hearing 2026 at the United Nations headquarters.

Delivering Pakistan's national statement at the inaugural session, Gilani emphasised the need for democratic, transparent and accountable decision-making to strengthen the credibility of the United Nations. He said parliaments remained essential partners in ensuring national ownership of international commitments.

Highlighting the need for institutional reform, the Senate chairman remarked that reforms should be inclusive, stressing the principle of

"reform for all, privilege for none". Gilani is leading a six-member high-level parliamentary delegation from Pakistan attending the two-day annual parliamentary hearing.

The delegation includes Senators Saleem Mandviwala, Farooq H. Naek, Muhammad Abdul Qadir, Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari, and National Assembly member Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar.

The Senate chairman underscored the continued importance of the United Nations as a cornerstone of multilateral cooperation, noting that its universal membership and Charter-based mandate remained central to promoting global peace and security.

Referring to multiple global challenges, including climate change, ongoing conflicts and widening socio-economic inequalities, he said these overlapping crises were straining the UN's capacity to deliver effectively across its key.

Mohsin Naqvi Inspects Islamabad Model Jail, Says Long-Delayed Project Nearing Completion

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited the under-construction Islamabad Model Jail and the new trainee officers' hostel at the National Police Academy on Friday, reviewing progress on major security and training infrastructure projects.

Officials briefed the minister that the Islamabad jail project—pending for 15 years since its launch in 2011—has now achieved over 85 per cent completion in Phase One and is expected to become functional in just two months. The facility will feature dual security walls, a digital monitoring system, and a centralized control room.

During his inspection, Mohsin Naqvi visited the barracks and expressed satisfaction over the pace and quality of con-



struction. He emphasized that establishing a modern model jail in the capital is essential for security and directed authorities to accelerate work through double-shift operations.

The interior minister also inspected the model room of the hostel being built for under-training ASPs, issuing key instructions to ensure high-standard accommodation for police officers. He noted that enhanced infrastructure at the National Police Academy will raise the quality of police training nationwide.

Maritime Minister pushes for steel self-sufficiency via Sea-to-Steel green corridor

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Junaid Anwar Chaudhry chaired a high-level review meeting Friday to accelerate the Sea-to-Steel Initiative at Port Qasim.

The meeting centered on the Integrated Maritime Industrial Complex (IMIC), a flagship initiative to modernize industrial operations through port infrastructure upgrades, shipbuilding and recycling facilities, and an integrated steel mill.

Representatives from China's Shandong Xinxu Group and senior Ministry of Maritime Affairs officials attended the meeting. Port Qasim Authority Chairman Rear Admiral (R) Syed Moazzam Ilyas participated via video link from Karachi.

The IMIC features three core components, including the revival and upgrading of the Iron Ore and Coal Berth (IOCB) jetty. This facility will handle ship recycling and repair, with the resulting scrap used to revive the

steel mill. Branded the "Sea-to-Steel Green Maritime Industrial Corridor," the project connects ship recycling with domestic steel production to cut reliance on imported raw materials and leverage recyclable scrap.

The Chinese group, which has shown keen interest, will submit a comprehensive unsolicited feasibility study, including financial impact assessments, structural and hydrographic analyses, and quantitative risk evaluations.

Minister Chaudhry positioned IMIC as a key driver of blue economy, creating industrial value through maritime assets. "Once submitted, the proposal will undergo thorough review before any decision," Junaid Chaudhry stated. "If approved, IMIC would rank among Pakistan's largest recent maritime and industrial investments, cementing Port Qasim as a regional hub for heavy industry and logistics." Pakistan continues to attract foreign investment in ports and industry to boost exports, create jobs.

Ayaz Sadiq congratulates BNP chairman, Tarique Rehman, on Bangladesh election victory

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: National Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, has extended heartfelt congratulations to the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its leader, Mr Tarique Rahman, on their victory in the general elections of Bangladesh.

In his felicitation message, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq conveyed his best wishes to Mr Tarique Rahman and the leadership of the BNP. He stated that securing a resounding mandate reflects the confidence and trust reposed by the people of Bangladesh in their leadership.

NA Speaker observed that the conduct of peaceful and transparent elections in Bangladesh is a positive sign for the strengthening of democratic values and institutions in the region. Reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to fostering strong and cordial ties, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq expressed his resolve to further enhance the historic, brotherly, and multifaceted relations between Pakistan.

Imran will be taken wherever he prefers for medical treatment: Tariq Fazal

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Affairs Minister Dr Tariq Fazal Chaudhry on Friday said that PTI founder Imran Khan would be taken "wherever he prefers" for medical treatment amid claims regarding the incarcerated leader's vision, stating that there would be "no negligence in the matter".

On Thursday, the Supreme Court (SC) was informed that PTI founder Imran Khan's right eye had only 15 per cent vision remaining, prompting a strong response from the party.

Addressing the media outside Parliament, Chaudhry said: "Wherever he (Imran) wants to go for a check-up, he will be taken. If he wants to go to Al-



Shifa Eye Trust, then he will be taken there. There will be no negligence in the matter."

"If the CJP recommends a doctor, he will be taken there," Chaudhry added.

He called on the opposition to refrain from politicising the issue. "This is a sensitive issue; politicising it and misrepresenting facts is completely unfair."

He added that the incarcerated leader would "now be examined by eye doctors or super-specialists, and we will try to ensure.

Aleem Khan meets Russian, Iranian transport ministers to boost connectivity

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan on Friday held separate high-level meetings with the transport ministers of Russia and Iran, focusing on enhancing transport, logistics, and bilateral connectivity among Pakistan, Iran, and Russia.

The meetings took place on the sidelines of the 2nd OIC Transport Ministers' Conference in Istanbul, where the State Secretary and Deputy Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Stanislavovich Zverev, and Iran's Minister for Roads and Infrastructure, Ms. Farzaneh



Sadegh, met with Abdul Aleem Khan, said a press release.

Aleem Khan meets Russian, Iranian transport ministers to boost connectivity

During talks with the Russian deputy minister, both sides agreed that expanding direct land and air connectivity between Pakistan and Russia would significantly enhance regional trade and economic activity.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry chairing a high-level review meeting on the Sea-to-Steel initiative at Port Qasim.

No negligence in PTI founder's medical treatment: Rana Sanaullah

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Adviser on Political and Public Affairs Rana Sanaullah on Friday told the Senate that the PTI founder was being provided medical treatment in accordance with court orders and established legal protocols, rejecting any impression of negligence in his healthcare.

Responding to concerns raised by lawmakers regarding the PTI founder's health, Rana Sanaullah said information placed before the Supreme Court had largely settled questions about his living conditions.

He added that reports submitted by jail authorities and the PTI founder's legal counsel were broadly consistent.

The adviser informed the House that the PTI founder first reported an eye-related complaint during the first week of January.

Following the complaint, the prison doctor prescribed eye drops. When the treatment did not provide sufficient relief, authorities initiated further medical procedures without delay.

According to Rana Sanaullah, the matter was formally referred to special-settled questions about his health on Jan 15, and a medical team examined the PTI



founder the following day. Subsequent evaluations were conducted by multiple doctors to assess his condition in detail. He said a four-member

medical team again examined the PTI founder on Jan 19, during which various diagnostic tests were carried out. Based on medical findings, the required treatment—including the administration of an injection—was provided on Jan 24. "These facts are fully documented," the adviser told the Senate, maintaining that medical records showed no delay or negligence at any stage of treatment.

He also said claims suggesting the PTI founder had been suffering for several months were not supported by available medical records.

Rana Sanaullah further stated that the PTI founder's

vital signs were being monitored regularly and that any medical complaint was addressed promptly in accordance with legal and medical procedures.

Emphasising that healthcare matters should not be politicised, he said they should be viewed strictly through medical and legal parameters rather than political narratives.

He assured the House that all necessary medical facilities would continue to be provided in compliance with judicial directions and that any additional medical requirements would also be addressed accordingly.