

President briefed on Hunan Tea Group operations, int'l market presence



Tarar recalls PM's Kakul address, reiterates stance on Pahalgam false flag operation



Abbasi terms launch of EO-3 satellite a milestone in Pakistan's scientific self-reliance

Founded By:
(Late) Rehmat Khan

ABC CERTIFIED

Email: editor.peakpoint@gmail.com
Website: www.peakpoint.pk

Executive Group Editor
Arif Mehmoood Khan



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Pakistan, Iran reaffirm commitment to regional peace

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reiterated that Pakistan will continue its sincere efforts to promote regional peace and security during a telephone call with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian.

The 50-minute conversation featured a detailed exchange of views on the evolving regional situation and ongoing diplomatic efforts aimed at ensuring stability.

The prime minister appreciated Iran's participation in recent talks held in Islamabad on the 11th and 12th of the month, and welcomed Tehran's decision to send a high-level delegation led by Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi for further discus-

sions. Shehbaz Sharif also shared details of his recent diplomatic outreach to global leaders, noting that these engagements have helped build broader consensus in support of continued dialogue and diplomacy for lasting peace. President Pezeshkian thanked the prime minister, Syed Asim Munir, and Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar for their contributions to peace efforts, and expressed confidence that Pakistan-Iran ties would continue to grow stronger.

The prime minister also conveyed his regards to Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei.

Both leaders agreed to maintain close coordination on regional matters and continue working together for peace and stability.



LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif offers condolence over the demise of sister of Speaker of the Punjab Assembly.

FM Araghchi back in Pakistan amid push to keep Iran-US peace talks on track: sources



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi returned to Pakistan on Sunday as the country tries to keep the US-Iran peace talks on track despite President Donald Trump calling off his envoys' planned trip, sources said. FM Araghchi landed in Islamabad following his visit to Oman, where he held talks with Sultan Haitham bin Tariq al-Said on security in the Strait of Hormuz and diplomatic efforts to end the Iran-US conflict.

During his second trip to Pakistan in two days, the Iranian foreign minister is expected to hold talks with the country's top leadership. According to the

Iranian news agency ISNA, Araghchi would convey "Iran's positions and views on the framework of any understanding to completely end the war". Araghchi had been in Islamabad only the day before, after which he travelled to Oman, while other Iranian envoys had headed back to Tehran "to consult and obtain the necessary instructions on issues related to ending the war", according to ISNA. Before Saturday's Iran-Pakistan meetings in Islamabad, the White House had announced that Trump's peace envoy Steve Witkoff and son-in-law Jared Kushner were planning to leave for Pakistan to engage in further negotiations. But Trump later told Fox News he had scrapped the trip, saying there was no point "sitting around talking about nothing". He dismissed Tehran's negotiating position, but added that it had revised its proposal within minutes of his decision. "They gave us a paper that should have been better and — interestingly — immediately when I cancelled it, within 10 minutes.

Trump safe after shooting at White House correspondents' dinner; suspect in custody



MAHARA ZAMAN

NEW YORK: United States President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump were rushed out of the White House Correspondents' Association dinner by Secret Service agents on Saturday night after a man opened fire on security personnel, officials said.

A man armed with a shotgun fired at a Secret Service agent, an FBI official told Reuters. The agent was hit in an area covered by protective gear and not harmed, the official said.

All federal officials, including Trump, were safe. About an hour after Trump was rushed from the event, he posted on Truth

Social that a "shooter had been apprehended". "Quite an evening in DC. Secret Service and Law Enforcement did a fantastic job," Trump added. Shortly afterwards, he posted, "The First Lady, plus the Vice President, and all Cabinet members, are in perfect condition". Anthony Guglielmi, a Secret Service spokesman, said the service was investigating a shooting near the main screening area at the entrance to the event.

Multiple US news outlets identified the suspect as 31-year-old Cole Tomas Allen from Torrance, in the southwest of Los Angeles County.

Asked about Allen late on Saturday, the FBI did not confirm his identity and told AFP it had nothing to add beyond what was disclosed in news conferences.

A LinkedIn profile with the name "Cole Allen" showed a picture of a man which appeared to match a photo of the suspect shared by Trump. The social media profile said Allen was a mechanical engineer, computer scientist, game developer and teacher.

PM visits Speaker House in Lahore to condole his sister's demise

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif visited the Speaker House in Lahore today to offer his condolences to Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan on the demise of his sister, and to Minister of State Malik Rasheed Ahmad Khan on the passing of his niece. The Prime Minister offered Fataha and prayed for elevation of the ranks of departed soul in the hereafter. He also prayed for patience and fortitude for the grieving family.

Swiss International says 5 injured after flight aborts takeoff in New Delhi

PEAK POINT

NEW DELHI: Swiss International said that a flight from Delhi to Zurich had to abort its takeoff early on Sunday after an engine issue, adding that four passengers and one crew member were injured.

The airline did not elaborate, but the Economic Times reported that one of the engines had caught on fire as the plane was accelerating down a runway and that the passengers were injured during an emergency evacuation. "Shortly after 1am local time on April 26, an issue occurred.

Chinese FM tells Myanmar leader Beijing will back its security, sovereignty

PEAK POINT

CHINA: China's top diplomat Wang Yi said Beijing will "firmly support" Myanmar in safeguarding its national sovereignty and security, in a meeting with junta chief-turned-president, Min Aung Hlaing.

Wang has been on a three-country visit to Southeast Asia this week, travelling to Cambodia, Thailand and Myanmar, seeking to strengthen ties in the face of "risks" and present Beijing as a more stable alternative to the United States.

Beijing supports Myanmar "in forging a successful development path that aligns with its national conditions and enjoys the support of its people", Wang told Min

Aung Hlaing during a visit to capital



Naypyidaw, according to a Chinese foreign ministry readout published late on Saturday.

"As this year marks the first year of the new Myanmar government's tenure, both sides should seize this opportunity to carry forward and promote their traditional friendship, [and] open up new prospects for bilateral relations," Wang said. month, continuing his rule from a civilian post five years after snatching power in a military coup. The parliamentary ceremony where he was sworn in was attended by representatives, including analysts say was the junta-backed election's biggest supporter. Democracy watchdogs have described the tightly con-

trolled election that concluded in January as an effort to rebrand military rule, with voting not taking place in swathes of the country controlled by rebels who are fighting the military and rejected the poll.

China, Wang added, was also willing to cooperate with Myanmar to "resolutely and thoroughly eradicate the scourge" of online gambling and telecommunications fraud. Myanmar has emerged as a hotspot for cyberscam operations in recent years. Transnational crime groups initially mostly targeted Chinese speakers before widening their reach and stealing tens of billions of dollars annually from victims around the world.

Who is Cole Allen, the suspect in the WH Correspondents' Dinner shooting?



PEAK POINT

NEW YORK: The suspect arrested in the White House Correspondents' Dinner shooting on Saturday was identified by a law enforcement official as Cole Tomas Allen, a Los Angeles-area man who appears from social media sites to be a Caltech graduate working as a part-time teacher and game developer.

The official said Allen, approximately 31 years of age, is a resident of Torrance, California, a coastal town that is part of the South Bay area adjacent to Los Angeles abutting Santa Monica Bay. US President Donald Trump, who called the suspect "a very sick person", said he was thought to have acted alone.



SPORTS



PSL 11: Hyderabad Kingsmen qualify for playoffs with victory over Rawalpindiz



PEAK POINT
KARACHI: Hyderabad Kingsmen qualified for the playoffs after beating Rawalpindiz by 108 runs in the second last group match of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) at the National Bank Stadium in Karachi on Sunday.
 Chasing a challenging target of 245, the Pindiz were bowled out for 136 in 17.1 overs as the Kingsmen delivered a disciplined and clinical bowling display under pressure.
 The result meant the Kingsmen successfully completed their qualification scenario, which required them not only to win but also to

restrict their opponents to 158 or fewer to progress to the next stage of the tournament.
 Kingsmen's massive victory over Pindiz bolstered their points tally to 10 points in 10 matches and helped them qualify for the playoffs by clinching the sought-after fourth position, pipping Lahore Qalandars, who finished with as many points but an inferior net run rate.
 Pindiz suffered an early setback when Akif Javed struck in the opening overs, dismissing Shahzaib Khan for just 1 off 5 runs.
 Mohammad Rizwan and

Usman Khawaja attempted to stabilise the innings, taking the score past the 50-run mark with a composed partnership. However, their 43-run stand was broken when Hunain Shah removed Rizwan for 26 off 16 deliveries, an innings featuring four boundaries.
 Khawaja continued to anchor the innings, reaching his second PSL half-century, and briefly revived hopes alongside Sam Billings. But wickets continued to fall at regular intervals.
 Kamran Gulam was dismissed for a duck by Hunain Shah, who claimed his second wicket of the innings. Billings fell shortly

after for 23 off 12 balls, striking one four and two sixes, while Dian Forrester managed just 6 before Akif Javed struck again, reducing Rawalpindiz to 102-5 in 14 overs.
 The lower order offered little resistance. Mohammad Ali added further pressure as Saad Masood departed for five, before Hunain Shah picked up his third wicket by dismissing Amad Butt for three.
 Asif Afridi became the ninth wicket, run out by Saim Ayub after scoring three, before Ben Sears was the final batter dismissed for a duck as Rawalpindiz were bundled out well short of the target.

Mohsen Gilani hails Field Marshal's football vision



PEAK POINT

LAHORE: Syed Mohsen Gilani, President of Pakistan Football Federation (PFF), has thanked Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir for his strong support in promoting football and launching talent hunt programs, saying the armed forces are playing a decisive role in discovering young talent and shaping the future of the game in the country. Speaking during a meeting with Pakistan's Under-16 national football team, which is participating in the UEFA Development Tournament for the first time, Mohsen Gilani said Field Marshal Asim Munir is a sports-loving personality who has shown keen interest in youth development through sports. He added that the Director General Army Fitness and Sports Directorate has successfully implemented the talent hunt program, helping identify promising players from the grassroots level. Gilani said it is the federation's responsibility to provide opportunities to talented youngsters and ensure their progress. The PFF President said the federation will continue working with the support of the Army for Pakistan's participation in major international events and for the overall development of football in the country. He added that tournaments like the UEFA Development Tournament are excellent learning platforms where young players can improve their skills and gain valuable experience.

PSL 11: United thump Sultans to set up Qualifiers clash with Zalmi



PEAK POINT
LAHORE: Mark Chapman's quick half-century, backed by a disciplined bowling performance, guided United to a comfortable four-wicket win over Multan Sultans in the 40th match of PSL 11 at the National Bank Stadium on Sunday. The victory

helped the three-time second over with just 10 runs on the board. His opening partnership with Devon Conway (18) followed suit on the first delivery of the sixth over after sharing a 31-run partnership for the second wicket with Mohsin Riaz, who made a 17-ball 25 until falling victim to Faisal Akram 13 balls later. With the scoreboard reading 72/3 in 7.2 overs, Chapman and skipper Shadab Khan launched a recovery by knitting a crucial 63-run partnership for the fourth wicket, which culminated with the latter's dismissal in the 15th over.

The United, however, had a contrasting start to the pursuit as they lost young opener Sameer Minhas (one) in the

Pakistan U-16 football team makes historic UEFA debut, gain valuable lessons despite 1-4 defeat

PEAK POINT
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Under-16 football team embarked on a historic journey as they made their debut at the UEFA Under-16 Development Tournament in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, on Saturday. While the result did not go in their favour, the occasion marked a significant milestone for youth football in the country. Facing the host nation at the BIK Sports Complex, Pakistan went down 1-4 to Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan had taken early control of the match. Platon Shipstun opened the scoring from the penalty spot in the seventh minute, before Anuar Tolendi doubled the lead with a counterattacking goal in the 21st minute. Captain

David Zarechny added a third in the 30th minute following a defensive lapse, while Daniyar Kassi headed home a fourth in first-half stoppage time. Pakistan regrouped after the interval and delivered a spirited second-half performance, with Samad's goal offering a glimpse of the team's potential and fueling optimism ahead of their upcoming fixture.

Despite the defeat, head coach Mohammed Essa emphasised the invaluable experience gained by his young squad. "This is a learning experience for the team, as it is the first time a Pakistan side is participating in a UEFA competition," Essa said. "It was our opening game, and I believe the team responded well after a challenging first half."



Rana Mashhood breaks ground on Pakistan's first FIFA Arena in Lahore



PEAK POINT
LAHORE: Pakistan marked a major milestone in grassroots football development on Saturday as Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, Chairman of the Prime Minister's

Youth Programme, performed the ground-breaking ceremony for the country's first-ever FIFA Arena in Lahore's Subzabar area. The ceremony brought together government officials, football administrators, and community leaders, signalling the arrival of international-standard football infrastructure in Pakistan and the start of what organisers described as a broader

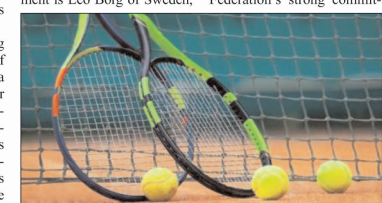
national rollout. The FIFA Arena initiative was introduced to Pakistan by Syed Mohsen Gilani, President of Pakistan Football Federation (PFF). Gilani said the project stemmed from discussions aligned with the Prime Minister's vision, adding that Rana Mashhood extended immediate support when the idea was first proposed. "This is a historic day," Gilani said. "From our very first discussion, Rana Sahib backed the initiative and encouraged us to begin in his constituency."

Flair travel ITF Men's Futures M-15 tennis tournament begins in Pakistan

PEAK POINT
ISLAMABAD: The Flair travel ITF Men's Futures M-15 (Leg-1) tournament kicked off here at the PTF Tennis Complex on Sunday. This tournament is being organized in the memory of Khawaja Iftikhar Ahmad, a respected former tennis player of the subcontinent, in recognition of his valuable contributions to the sport and his lasting legacy in regional tennis history. A total of 70 men's players from 23 countries are participating in this prestigious international event. The participating nations include Pakistan, Kuwait, Russia, Uzbekistan, Sweden, Austria, Malaysia, Great Britain, Italy, Lithuania, China, Turkey, Algeria, Canada, USA,

Ireland, Poland, Hong Kong, Nepal, Greece, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, and Japan. Top seed of the tournament is Leo Borg of Sweden, currently ranked ATP 483, while the second seed is Samir Hamza Reguig of Algeria, holding an ATP ranking of 844. Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi, President of the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF), stated that hosting back-to-

back ITF Pro Tour tournaments in Islamabad is a remarkable achievement for Pakistan and reflects the Federation's strong commitment to promoting international tennis. He warmly welcomed all visiting players, officials, and support staff, assuring them of world-class facilities and outstanding hospitality throughout the event.





No documents, no photocopies: CTO Virk enforces ITP paperless licensing



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Islamabad Muhammad Sarfraz Virk chaired an important meeting to review implementation of the paperless licensing system across Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) service centres. An ITP official told APP on Sunday that all in-charges

of police facilitation centres attended the meeting.

CTO Virk issued clear directions to ensure complete implementation of the paperless system at all centres.

The CTO informed that ITP's licensing system had been made fully paperless. He said that from medical examination to printing of

driving licence, no paper would be used in the entire process.

The CTO said that all in-charges were directed to strictly follow the system and ensure smooth service delivery. He said that separate counters had been allocated for women and senior citizens to facilitate them.

CTO Virk directed officers to treat every citizen with courtesy and professionalism during the process. He said citizens would now only need to bring their original CNIC to obtain a driving licence.

The official said that the ITP was also planning to digitize the licensing fee system in the near future.

FIA-Interpol arrests 4 suspects wanted in murder, fraud cases in UAE



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) National Central Bureau (NCB) Interpol arrested four suspects wanted in murder and fraud cases registered in Pakistan during a major operation in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

FIA-Interpol arrests 4

were apprehended in Abu Dhabi.

The official said that FIA-Interpol had earlier issued Red Notices for their arrest. He said the accused were shifted to Lahore Airport and handed over to Punjab Police by FIA Immigration authorities upon arrival.

The official said that the suspects wanted in murder, fraud cases in UAE.

An official told APP on Sunday that the arrested accused were identified as Abdullah, Adil, Muhammad Adnan and Shah Faisal. He said that the suspects, who were wanted by Punjab Police in cases registered in Faisalabad and Sargodha,

PSX attack compensation revealed in senate as capital market funding details surface

NADEEM TANOLI

ISLAMABAD: In a rare parliamentary disclosure, the government confirmed compensation payments made after the deadly 2020 attack on the Pakistan Stock Exchange, while also outlining the role of market institutions in financing high level capital market events. Responding to a question by Senator Shahadat Awan,

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb told the Senate that the June 29, 2020 terrorist attack resulted in the martyrdom of Sindh Police Sub Inspector Shahid Ali and injuries to multiple personnel. Official records clarified the officer's name as Shahid Ali, correcting earlier references. According to the response, the PSX disbursed Rs2 million to the family of

the martyred officer, while three injured officials received Rs500,000 each. Additional payments were made to personnel recognized for their response during the attack, with three individuals awarded Rs300,000 each. The disclosure provides one of the clearest official breakdowns of compensation linked to the high profile assault on Pakistan's financial

hub. The Senate was also informed about financial arrangements behind the International Capital Market Conference held in Karachi. The event was jointly funded by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan and key Capital Market Infrastructure Institutions, including PSX, the National Clearing Company, the Central Depository

Company, and the Pakistan Mercantile Exchange. The government did not specify total expenditures but confirmed that multiple institutions pooled resources for the initiative. The twin disclosures highlight both crisis response measures and institutional collaboration within Pakistan's financial sector. While compensation payments reflect post-incident support mechanisms,

the shared funding model for market events underscores the growing role of capital market institutions in policy engagement and investor outreach. The matter came to light during a Senate question and answer session, placing renewed focus on transparency in both security related compensation and financial governance within key market bodies.

Opinion & Editorial

Changing precedence

Basil Nabi Malik
PRIOR to the 27th Amendment, a decision taken by the Supreme Court of Pakistan, to the extent that it decided a question of law or enunciated one, was considered binding upon all other courts in Pakistan in terms of Article 189 of the Constitution. The 27th Amendment, by its very nature, was promulgated to carve out a new court from the existing Supreme Court. The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in relation to constitutional questions was taken away and given to an entirely different creature — the Federal Constitutional Court.

Along with the establishment of the Federal Constitutional Court, Article 189 of the Constitution was also amended to reflect an entirely new reality. In terms of the amendment, any decision of the Federal Constitutional Court, to the extent that it decided a question of law or was based upon or enunciated a principle of law, became binding on all other courts of Pakistan, including the Supreme Court. In the new scheme of things, the Federal Constitutional Court attained primacy in terms of constitutional interpretation, and even the Supreme Court, which had earlier been the apex court, was bound by its decisions.

On the face of it, this seemed pretty logical. If a new court had been established within whose purview

came constitutional interpretation and constitutional questions pertaining to the validity of laws, it would only make sense for such decisions and constitutional enunciations to hold sway over all other courts, including the Supreme Court.

Past Supreme Court precedents can't be disregarded, but may be reconsidered, if required. However, practically speaking, in rendering its rulings, the Federal Constitutional Court has been seen relying heavily on earlier enunciations of the law and rulings made by the Supreme Court. Considering that the Federal Constitutional Court is now the apex court, reliance on Supreme Court rulings would appear to some as somewhat counter-intuitive.

In relation to this, certain legal minds argue that the Federal Constitutional Court has upended the intention and objectives behind the amendments in Article 189, whereby the Supreme Court was to be bound by the decisions of the Federal Constitutional Court, and not vice versa, and in doing so, has tacitly upheld the Supreme Court's primacy in terms of constitutional interpretation. Others argue that the Federal Constitutional Court's reliance on past Supreme Court rulings is not in contradiction to Article 189, as currently amended, but is merely the recognition of the principles outlined and enunciated previously by a

body which was equivalent in stature to the Federal Constitutional Court prior to the 27th Amendment. In effect, the previous decisions of the Supreme Court were the decisions of the Federal Constitutional Court's predecessor-in-interest, and as such, the Federal Constitutional Court, being its successor, inherited the entire body of precedents, and would therefore be bound by the same. This argument may also gain further impetus in the context of the very genesis of the Federal Constitutional Court, which was not created anew with jurisdiction previously unknown to Pakistan but was carved out of an existing court whose jurisdiction was transferred to the Federal Constitutional Court. From this perspective as well, it may be reasonable to assert that any decision rendered thereby should therefore be considered a decision of the Federal Constitutional Court, as it stands today. In any case, the dichotomies between both worldviews have taken centre stage in a recent case before the Federal Constitutional Court. In the case of 'Shahbaz Masih vs Additional Sessions Judge, Lahore and others', rendered on Feb 3, 2026, the Federal Constitutional Court discussed the impact of the amendments to Article 189 to that overall chain of precedence across the judicial set-up.

Courtesy Dawn

The shape of sorrow

Muhammad Ali Falak

Every happy family is happy in the same way; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.

The line from Anna Karenina did not feel like literature when I heard it last week. It felt like a mirror. A quiet, uncomfortable truth that settled into the room and refused to leave. The monk paused after saying it. His shaved head caught the light. Then, slowly, he began to open what felt like pages of a living book not written in ink, but in pain. The monk did not command attention in the way speakers often try to. He seemed to gather it effortlessly. Draped in simplicity, with a shaved head, he carried an unusual stillness - the kind that comes not from silence, but from having listened deeply to the world. When he spoke, it was without theatrics, yet every word felt deliberate, as if weighed against the lives he had encountered. There was no distance between him and his stories; he did not narrate them as an observer, but as someone who had carried fragments of each life within him. To the audience, he felt less like a person and more like a passage - a quiet conduit through which the pain, resilience and unanswered questions of others found their way into the room. The first story came from the outskirts of Nairobi. A girl who said she had not begun life from zero, but from minus one hundred. Her only memory of her father was distance - a fading image of a man walking away on a dusty road, his figure growing smaller while she stood frozen, waiting, willing him to turn back just once. He never did. That single moment, the monk said, became the axis of her life. It did not pass. It lingered, replaying itself in the quiet corners of her mind. Years followed, but they did not move her forward. Instead, they stretched that same abandonment into different shapes - into relatives' homes where she learned to shrink herself, into rooms where she was fed but never truly held, into nights where silence felt heavier than words.

Courtesy Tribune

Arif Mehmood Khan
Group Editor: 0333-5366814

Samra Athar Kakakhel
Resident Editor
Nadim Tanoli
Joint Editor: Mob-0301-777874
Email: editor.peakpoint@gmail.com
www.peakpoint.pk

Migration death toll

In 1947, Pakistan marked its place on the global map through an idealised notion of migration. Almost 80 years later, the struggle to migrate remains embedded in the very fabric of its people - only now, Pakistanis seek survival through migration to other countries. Economic instability, political turmoil and incessant social challenges have driven throngs of people away from this land, and a large portion are those who opt for unsafe and illegal channels. While the romanticised concept of a difficult journey in search of a better life seems appealing to many, illegal migration is fraught with obstacles that are often fatal. According to the United Nations' Migration agency, around 7,900 people died or disappeared on migration routes only in 2025. Within the context of a report by Pakistan's National Commission for Human Rights that ranks Pakistan fifth among countries with the highest illegal migration to Europe, this number is deeply troubling. The Pakistan government has taken notice of this issue alongside three EU nations - Italy, Spain and Greece. In a conference earlier this year, the four nations agreed to tackle this problem by promoting legal pathways to override illegal means. But this straightforward solution must be viewed through the lens of a struggling citizen who is already financially depleted and socially exhausted.

Tarar recalls PM's Kakul address, reiterates stance on Pahalgam false flag operation

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Saturday recalled Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's address at the Pakistan Military Academy (PMA) Kakul delivered one year ago, and reiterated Pakistan's consistent position on the Pahalgam false flag operation, emphasizing the country's commitment to counter-terrorism, regional stability and a transparent, impartial investigation into the episode.

He was speaking to media on the key points of the national stance regarding the Prime Minister's historic address delivered one year ago at Pakistan Military Academy and the Pahalgam false flag operation.

The minister said that the prime minister, while speaking to cadets at PMA Kakul on April 26, 2025, had clearly articulated Pakistan's stance on the Pahalgam incident, rejecting baseless allegations and calling for an end to the blame game associat-



ed with such events.

He recalled that a meeting of the National Security Committee held on April 24 last year had also given a comprehensive response to the allegations, followed by the prime minister's visit to Kakul where he delivered a historic address responding to the Pahalgam false flag operation.

Tarar said the prime minister had termed the Pahalgam incident a "tragedy" and expressed sympathy with the victims, while conveying

Pakistan's concern and sorrow at the international level. "The prime minister made it clear that the recurring pattern of baseless accusations under the cover of such incidents must stop," he added. Contrasting Pakistan's position with that of India, the minister said Pakistan had consistently condemned terrorism and remained engaged in combating the menace, whereas, he said India had failed to adopt a clear stance in this regard. He said the distinction between a country fighting

Pakistan's fuel supply stable, ending global conflicts crucial for permanent price control: Ali Pervaiz Malik

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik emphasized that resolving world conflicts is crucial to permanently control petrol prices, affirming that Pakistan's fuel supply is secure, unlike India, where citizens faced long queues and shortages on petrol pumps. During an exclusive conversation with a local news channel, Ali Pervaiz Malik stated that efforts are ongoing to stabilize fuel prices and maintain balance in the market. He emphasized that Pakistan's situation remains comparatively stronger than many countries like India facing economic stress due to global conflicts. He praised the leadership of the Prime Minister, the Field Marshal Asim Munir and the Deputy Prime Minister for their proactive measures, expressing admiration for



their efforts in ensuring energy security and economic stability. The minister also highlighted that Pakistan has an agreement with the IMF which must be honoured, warning that any failure to comply could have serious consequences for the country's economic situation. Finally, he expressed confidence that strategic adjustments, including reducing diesel load and channeling it into petrol, have strengthened fuel availability and helped manage prices effectively. Responding to a query, Minister for Petroleum stressed.

Maritime Minister announces storage relief at KPT terminals to ease exporters' burden amid shipment delays

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry on Sunday announced storage charge waivers ranging from 25 to 50 percent at Karachi Port Trust (KPT) terminals to facilitate exporters affected by recent disruptions in Gulf-bound shipments.

Following constructive engagement with terminal operators to address exporters' concerns, Rear Admiral Shahid Ahmed (ret'd), Chairman of KPT, led the effort on the minister's direction, securing waivers of 50 per cent at KGTL from March 1 to 20, 2026; 50 per cent at KICT from March 1 to 10, 2026; and 25 per cent at SAPT from March



11 to 31, 2026.

These measures cover export containers stranded at terminal yards that could not be loaded due to operational issues, the minister said. "The waivers aim to reduce financial pressure on importers and exporters, clear pending consignments, and boost cargo clearance efficiency." Lauding KPT's efforts, Junaid Chaudhry said it marks a positive step to support the export sector, ensure trade continuity.

President briefed on Hunan Tea Group operations, int'l market presence

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari, Sunday, visited Hunan Tea Group Co., Ltd. in Changsha, China where he was briefed by Zhou Zhongwang, Chairman of Hunan Tea Group, on its operations, supply chain and international market presence.

The president was apprised of the Group's end-to-end model, which brings together cultivation, processing, research, marketing and tea culture within a single industrial framework.

The briefing outlined how ecological tea garden bases, specialized production facilities and distribution systems were organised to support both domestic sales and exports, President Secretariat Media Wing said in a press release.

The president was informed that Hunan Tea Group functions as a coordinating platform for the province's tea sector, connecting

growers, industry and research institutions with branding and market access.

The president was accompanied by Senator Saleem Mandviwalla; Sharjeel Inam Memon, Senior Provincial Minister, Sindh; Ali Hassan Barohi; Syed Qasim Naveed Qamar, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister of Sindh for Investment and Public-Private Partnership Projects; Chief Secretary, Sindh; China's Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong and Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi.

During the visit, the president toured the company's history gallery and observed a presentation on tea processing and tea culture. He also attended a tea tasting session.

President Zardari noted the scope for cooperation in value addition, agro-processing and export development, and invited the Group to explore opportunities for collaboration with Pakistan in these areas.

NA Speaker visits Tessori's residence, offers condolences over mother's demise

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Speaker of National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq visited the residence of former Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori and expressed deep sorrow and grief over the passing of his mother.

Ayaz Sadiq extended heartfelt condolences and sympathies to Kamran Tessori and said that the loss of parents is an immense tragedy and has no substitute. He said that in this difficult time, he stands in full solidarity with Kamran Tessori and his family in their grief.

Ayaz Sadiq offered Fateha for the departed soul and prayed for the elevation of her ranks in the hereafter.

He prayed that Almighty Allah may grant the deceased a high place in Jannat-ul-Firdous.

He further prayed that Allah Almighty may grant Kamran Tessori and his family patience, strength, and courage to bear this irreparable loss with fortitude.

Abbasi terms launch of EO-3 satellite a milestone in Pakistan's scientific self-reliance

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi on Sunday hailed the successful launch of Pakistan's EO-3 satellite, calling it a significant boost to national prestige and an important milestone toward scientific self-reliance.

In a statement, the minister said the EO-3 satellite reflected Pakistan's growing capabilities in space technology and symbolized the progress of a developing and modern nation.

He praised the scientists and engineers of SUPARCO for their dedication and hard work in making the mission a success.

Abbasi also said China's



cooperation in the space sector as a strong example of the enduring friendship between Pakistan and China.

He expressed the confidence that the EO-3 satellite would open new avenues for advanced research, innovation and development in the country, helping Pakistan move forward in science and technology.



CHANGSHA, CHINA: President Asif Ali Zardari visiting the history gallery of Hunan Tea Group and observing exhibits on the development of the tea industry.

EO-3 launch marks another monumental leap forward for Pakistan's Space Programme

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: The launch of the third electro-optical satellite EO-3 has marked another monumental leap forward for the nation's advancing space programme, as the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) successfully launched it from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in China, the other day.

The satellite will transform Pakistan's national capabilities in remote sensing, improving data continuity, imaging reliability, and

analytical precision while supporting applications in urban planning, disaster management, food security, and environmental protection, serving as the foundation for an integrated Earth Observation System contributing to sustainable socioeconomic development across multiple sectors.

According to the Project Director, Mr. Irfan Aslam (T.I.), "It was a matter of immense pleasure to announce the successful launch of the third electro-optical satellite EO-3, calling it another monumental leap



forward for the nation's advancing space programme". On behalf of Pakistan Space Agency, SUPARCO, he extended sincere congratulations to the people of Pakistan on this

remarkable achievement, describing it as not just a testament to technological prowess but also a symbol of unwavering commitment to innovation, self-reliance, and progress.

Mr. Aslam highlighted that EO-3 is part of three electro-optical satellites indigenously designed and developed by SUPARCO. EO-1 was launched in January 2025 and EO-2 in February 2026, both of which are already operational and delivering valuable services and data.

He noted that EO-3 has a low inclination orbit which makes it useful for more frequent observations, and that it carries newly developed indigenous technologies including Pakistan's first AI-powered satellite computer to

enable real-time analysis and intelligent decision support.

He further added that the addition of EO-3 to Pakistan's Earth observation satellite fleet significantly enhances national capabilities in remote sensing, with the integrated system set to improve data continuity, imaging reliability, and analytical precision, supporting applications in the socioeconomic sector of Pakistan.

He described the launch as a tribute to the ever-growing capabilities, relentless dedication, and consistent efforts of the scientists.