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Who is the real Hira Mani after all?

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PM launches PMS at FBR, calls for strong efforts to reduce debts

ARIF MEHMOOD KHAN

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday called upon the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) officers to work with unwavering commitment and full dedication to help Pakistan become a debt-free country. He was speaking at a ceremony in Islamabad where he launched a new Performance Management System for FBR officers. "If we want to move away from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), we must work hard to increase our revenues," the prime minister said.

He said the FBR revenues witnessed an increase of 27% for which the entire FBR team deserved appreciation. However, he said this was a long journey and more work was needed to plug the loopholes in the system. The prime minister commended the efforts of the finance minister, secretary finance, Chairman FBR and the entire team for launching such an effective performance system. He also announced to replicate the implementation of his government institutions to promote the culture of penalty and reward aimed at improving the performance of the institutions. During his visit to the FBR, the prime minister was briefed on PRAL (Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited), digital invoicing, and the newly launched Performance Management System. He also visited the newly established delivery unit of FBR and interacted with officers. The prime



Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif (left) addressing a group of officials at the FBR. He also visited the newly established delivery unit of FBR and interacted with officers. The prime minister was informed that a data-driven decision-making system was being introduced at the

FBR. This includes data collection from NADRA, banking institutions, and other sectors regarding payments and asset purchases. In order to align FBR with international standards and expand the tax base, the Board is taking steps toward implementing a modern and automated system. In line with the prime minister's vision for reforms and digitalization of the FBR, the entire value chain is being digitized. Furthermore, preparations for launching the digital invoicing system have been completed and it will be officially rolled out soon.

JAVED KHAN

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan, Dr. Reza Amiri Moghadam in meeting with the Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Khalid Hussain Magasi on Thursday discussed new avenues of bilateral cooperation. The ambassador was accompanied by the Iran's Deputy Minister for Science, Research and Technology, Dr. Abolfaz Bahe Di during the meeting. The meeting focused on enhancing partnerships in science, technology,

and education, with both sides expressing a firm commitment to deepen academic and scientific ties. Khalid Magasi emphasized the significant potential for collaboration between the two neighboring countries, proposing the launch of joint projects of mutual interest. Highlighting the importance of academic linkages, both parties agreed to promote university-to-university cooperation, joint research initiatives, and student exchange programs to build stronger connections between educational institutions in Pakistan and Iran.

Dar reaffirms Pakistan's commitment to SCO cooperation in trade, transport, connectivity

SAMRA ATHAR

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday reiterated Pakistan's constructive engagement within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), emphasizing the importance of mutually beneficial collaboration—particularly in the areas of bilateral trade, transport, and regional connectivity. The deputy prime minister was talking to Secretary General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO),

Nurlan Yermekbayev, who is on an official visit to Pakistan. The deputy PM congratulated Mr. Yermekbayev on commencement of his responsibilities as the new Secretary General of SCO. He assured him of Pakistan's full support for the SCO Secretariat. The deputy PM underlined Pakistan's close historical ties with SCO member states and reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to uphold the Shanghai spirit. He appreciated the potential of SCO as forum for promoting regional peace and security as well



Deputy PM reiterated Pakistan's constructive involvement for mutually beneficial cooperation within the SCO mechanisms especially in the areas of bilateral trade, transport and connectivity. The Secretary General Yermekbayev thanked Pakistan for the hospitality and appreciated Pakistan's active engagement in SCO activities. He lauded Pakistan's successful hosting of the Meeting of Heads of Government of the SCO member States (SCO CHG) in Islamabad on October 2024, Pakistan travel guides.

Both dignitaries had a useful exchange of views on SCO priorities. They deliberated on ways and means for advancing cooperation under SCO in the areas of transportation and logistics, energy security, food security, health, e-commerce and green economy. The SCO is a ten-member intergovernmental trans-regional organization established since 15 June 2001. Pakistan became SCO Observer in 2005 and acquired full membership in June 2017. Pakistan advocates regional peace, stability and socio-economic development at the SCO platform.

Pakistan sets April 30 deadline for Foreign Nationals

MOHSIN ALI

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State Talal Chaudhry on Friday has announced that all foreign nationals without valid visas must leave Pakistan by April 30, reaffirming the government's firm policy on the repatriation of undocumented immigrants, particularly Afghan nationals. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, the minister emphasized that while Pakistan has shown unparalleled hospitality for decades, the time has come to strictly enforce immigration laws. "We welcomed our Afghan brothers for 40

years with open hearts. But no country in the world allows anyone to live without a visa and Pakistan cannot be an exception," he stated. Chaudhry shared that 84,869 Afghan nationals have been repatriated since April as part of the ongoing national policy to return individuals residing in Pakistan illegally. He clarified that the repatriation process is being conducted in a lawful, organized, and humane manner, and that Pakistani authorities are working closely with Afghan counterparts to facilitate the transition.

Jammu & Kashmir internationally recognized disputed territory: FO Spokesperson

AYESHA REHAN

ISLAMABAD: Jammu and Kashmir was an internationally recognized disputed territory whose final status was to be determined in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and aspirations of the Kashmiri people, the Foreign Office Spokesperson said on Friday. Speaking during the weekly press briefing here, he said, "We wish to set the record straight regarding remarks made by the Spokesperson of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs regarding

Jammu and Kashmir, yesterday. India's arbitrary designation of the Indian Durgally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir as its so-called Union Territory is null and void, ipso facto." "Rather than making baseless claims, India should vacate the large territories of Jammu and Kashmir under its forcible occupation for the last 77 years," he continued. He said that at the invitation of Acting Afghan Foreign Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar will lead a high-level delegation to Kabul on Saturday.



During the day-long holding delegation-level talks with the Acting Foreign Minister. The talks will cover the entire agenda of the Pak-Afghan relationship, focusing on ways and

means to deepen cooperation in all areas of mutual interests, including security, trade, connectivity, and people-to-people ties. The Deputy Prime Minister's visit is a reflection of Pakistan's commitment to enhance sustained engagement with the brotherly country of Afghanistan. He said, "Pakistan strongly condemns the bombing of the Baptist Hospital in Gaza by Israeli occupation forces. This attack, part of a pattern of targeting medical facilities, constitutes a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law. That it occurred

on Palm Sunday, a sacred occasion for Christians, underscores Israel's blatant disregard for religious sanctity and civilian lives." Pakistan demanded an immediate end to Israel's ongoing atrocities, which had resulted in the indiscriminate killing of innocent and unarmed Palestinians, including women and children, and the systematic destruction of civilian infrastructure, he added. "Israel's relentless assaults have crippled Gaza's healthcare system, depriving critically ill patients of vital medical care.

Four Khwarij terrorists killed in joint intelligence based operation in Swat; ISPR

ARSHAD MALIK

RAWALPINDI: Security Forces and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) on Friday killed four Khwarij terrorists in a joint intelligence based operation in Swat District on reported presence of Khwarij. "During the conduct of operation, own troops effectively engaged Khwarij location, resulting four Khwarij were sent to hell," said a news release issued by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) here. Weapons and ammu-

nition were also recovered from the killed Khwarij, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities in the area. Four Khwarij terrorists killed in joint intelligence based operation in Swat; ISPR. "Sanitization operation is being conducted to eliminate any other Khwarij found in the area, as the Security Forces in coordination with Law Enforcement Agencies of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country," it further said.

NA speaker calls Palestine conflict a 'Grave Moral Dilemma' for world

HUMA REHAN

ISLAMABAD: Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that the issue of Palestine continues to haunt the global conscience as it represents not just a political conflict but a crisis of humanity—a modern-day genocide that poses a grave moral dilemma for the civilized world. Addressing 1st Meeting of the Group of Parliamentarians in Support of Palestine, held at the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, he said, "This is not merely a political dispute, nor is it confined to religious or cultural affiliations. At its core, it is a crisis of humanity—a modern-day genocide that poses a grave moral dilemma for the civilized world." While expressing solidarity with the people of

Palestine, he said that for over seven decades, the people of Palestine have been denied their inalienable right to self-determination—a right enshrined in countless United Nations resolutions. He lamented that the international community has largely failed to stop the oppression, as Palestinians continue to suffer under a brutal and illegal occupation. While expressing unwavering solidarity with the people of Palestine, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that Pakistan stands with the people of Palestine in their just and noble struggle. This support is not episodic—it is principled, historic, and central to our foreign policy, he added. Pakistani travel guides.



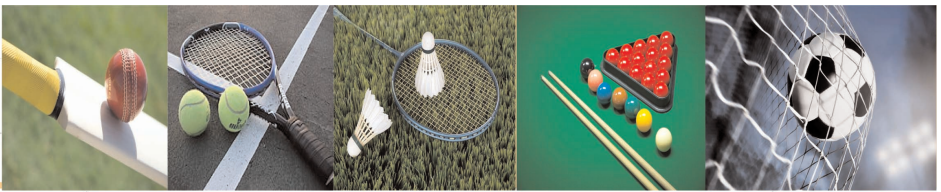
stance on Palestine is not to recognize Israel has been upheld by every successive government to date, he added. Speaker Sadiq has said that even as a nascent state, Pakistan took a firm stand—advocating for Palestine both nationally and globally. He further said that during his previous tenure as Speaker National Assembly, he had the honour of convening the first-ever Speakers' Conference in

2017, with parliamentary leaders from Afghanistan, China, Iran, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, and Turkey. The Conference, themed "Parliamentary Cooperation for Peace, Connectivity, and Prosperity," was a platform where we resolved to support oppressed communities—whether in Kashmir, Rohingya, or Palestine—and to promote dialogue, justice, and solidarity across regions. He reiterated the strongest possible terms that the Government and people of Pakistan unequivocally condemn the continued aggression and atrocities committed by Israeli Occupation Forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, particularly in Gaza. The indiscriminate violence which has claimed the lives of thousands, including women,

children, medical personnel, and humanitarian workers—is a stain on modern history," he added. While denouncing Israel's latest military offensive, including the illegal seizure of the Morag Corridor and the annexation of Palestinian land under the guise of "security corridors," he expressed that this is a blatant violation of international law. These actions are part of a calculated strategy to displace Palestinians and alter regional demographics, he added. He further stated, "Among the most heinous acts is the deliberate bombing of a UN-run clinic in Jabalia, which sheltered over 700 displaced civilians, and this alongside the broader campaign to ethnically cleanse Palestinians, amounts to war crimes and demands urgent

international accountability." He also highlighted South Africa's decision to initiate legal proceedings against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), alleging that it violated the Genocide Convention—a significant development in international law. The ICJ has emphasized that Israel must end its unlawful occupation, halt settlement activities, evacuate the settlements, and offer reparations for the destruction caused. Several states, including Nicaragua, Colombia, Libya, Mexico, Spain, and the State of Palestine, have filed interventions—a powerful testament to the gravity of this case and its global significance. Speaker Sadiq strongly condemned Israel's ongoing military campaign, which, as of 7 October 2024, has resulted in the

killing of over 42,000 Palestinians—including 13,300 children—and left more than 97,000 injured due to Israeli forces' actions. Many of these attacks were deliberate or indiscriminate, wiping out entire multigenerational families, he added. He further stated that these are not mere numbers—they represent a moral failure of our time. Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq stated that equally important was the stocking of the Al-Aqsa Mosque by Israeli forces during the sacred festival of Eid-ul-Fitr—a sacrilegious act that violated the sanctity of one of Islam's holiest sites and aimed to provoke and inflame regional tensions. He further stated that such provocations are unacceptable and must be condemned in the strongest possible terms.



PSL X: Kings inflict 56-run defeat on Gladiators

ARIF MEHMOOD KHAN

KARACHI: Karachi Kings on Friday thrashed Quetta Gladiators by 56 runs in the eighth match Pakistan Super League's (PSL) 10th season at the National Stadium Karachi.

David Warner-led Kings secured their second win in the ongoing cricket tournament today, thanks to a stellar all-round performance.

Chasing a target of 176, the Gladiators were restricted to 119-9. Their innings suffered early setbacks, beginning in the first over when Mir Hamza dismissed Finn Allen for just six, leaving the score at 8-1 after 0.5 overs.

In the very next over, Hasan Ali struck, sending Hassan Nawaz back to the pavilion for a mere one run. With that wicket, Ali reached 114 PSL wickets, becoming the all-time leading wicket-taker in

the tournament's history. Kusal Mendis and Saud Shakeel briefly tried to steady the ship, but their partnership was short-lived. Mendis was dismissed for 12 off eight balls, leaving the Gladiators at 34-3 after 3.5 overs.

The Gladiators continued to lose wickets as pressure mounted. Hasan Ali bagged his second wicket, removing Rilee Rossouw. The Gladiators were reeling at 37-5 after six overs.

Mohammad Nabi then bowled a maiden over to close out the powerplay, followed by another key wicket, removing Rilee Rossouw. The Gladiators were reeling at 37-5 after six overs.

The collapse continued as Abbas Afridi picked up his first wicket, sending Faheem Ashraf back for just three runs, leaving the Gladiators at 47-6 after nine overs.

Following the strategic timeout, Abbas struck



again, removing Sean Abbott for just three runs, leaving the Gladiators at 57-7 in 11.4 overs.

A 43-run partnership between Mohammad Amir and Saud Shakeel for the eighth wicket gave

the Gladiators some hope. Their efforts aimed to secure a respectable total and avoid a heavy defeat.

However, Amir's innings ended at 30 off 16 balls, dismissed by Aamer Jamal, leaving the Gladiators at 100-8 in 16.5

overs. Hasan Ali completed his hat-trick of wickets, dismissing Abrar Ahmed for just five runs, leaving the Gladiators at 110-9 in 18.4 overs.

In the end, the Gladiators were restricted

to 119-9, with opener Saud Shakeel remaining unbeaten on 33 and Ali Majid scoring nine.

For the Kings, Hasan Ali topped the wickets tally with three, while Mohammad Nabi and Abrar Ahmed claimed two

wickets each. Earlier, opting to bat first, the Kings' opening pair of Tim Seifert and captain David Warner provided a solid start, adding 50 runs during the powerplay.

However, Gladiators' Abrar Ahmed struck the first blow, dismissing Warner for 31 off 20 balls, leaving the Kings at 60-1 in 5.4 overs.

In the seventh over, Saud Shakeel removed Seifert for 27 off 15 balls, reducing the Kings to 62-2 in 6.2 overs.

Ali Majid, in his debut match for the Gladiators, continued to apply pressure by dismissing Muhammad Riazullah and then Khushdil Shah for just one run, leaving the Kings at 91-4 in 11.2 overs.

A 34-run partnership between James Vince and Irfan Khan gave the Kings some stability, but Irfan's dismissal by Sean Abbott for 17 left the score at 125-

5 in 15.1 overs. Vince, with a vital knock of 70, reached his second fifty of the tournament, supported by Mohammad Nabi, who contributed 18 runs.

Mohammad Amir made a late impact, removing both Nabi and Vince in the final over as the Kings finished at 175-7. For the Gladiators, Amir and Majid claimed two wickets each.

Karachi Kings: David Warner, Abbas Afridi and Adam Milne (all platinum), James Vince, Hasan Ali, Khushdil Shah (all diamond), Shan Masood, Muhammad Irfan Khan and Aamir Jamal (all gold), Arafat Minhas (brand ambassador), Tim Seifert, Zahid Mahmood, Ben McDermott and Mir Hamza Fawad Ali and Riazullah (both emerging), Omaid Bin Yousuf, Saad Baig, Mohammad Nabi and Mirza Manzoor (all supplementary).

Pakistan women clinch World Cup spot after Fatima, Sidra heroics down Thailand by 87 runs

MUHAMMAD USMAN

ISLAMABAD: Skipper Fatima Sana led the way as Pakistan women on Thursday went through to the Women's World Cup after beating Thailand by 87 runs in their fourth One-Day International (ODI) encounter of the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 Qualifiers.

Pakistan have booked their spot for the World Cup to be held later this year, courtesy their bowlers who once again stepped up to defend a below-par score of 205.

Earlier in the day, player of the match Fatima played a captain's knock of 62 not out, supported by Veteran bat Sidra Amin.

The Pakistan skipper, speaking after the match, said, "Our main aim was that we want to play the World Cup and the way our players were supporting each other, with our self-belief getting stronger after the camp, that really helped us achieve this win." She added that the way they practised in Faisalabad for



more than a month before the tournament helped them out in the Qualifiers.

Sidra top-scored for Pakistan with 80 as the hosts set Thailand a target of 206 to win in the day-night encounter at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore. Sidra and Fatima's 97 partnership was crucial for the Green Team after being in trouble earlier in the innings.

Pakistan's batting woes continued as the hosts lost regular wickets and could not up their scoring rate in the early half of their innings after opting to bat first. When Fatima joined Sidra at the crease, the score was at a dismal 85-4 in 32 overs.

The Green Team's batting effort did not get off to the best of starts with the medium pace of Phannita Maya getting the better of Shawaal Zulfiqar,

who was playing her first match of the tournament today.

The right-hander was playing in place of newcomer Gull Feroza. She fell while trying to break the shackles after Thailand were brilliant with their bowling discipline in the powerplay, hardly bowling a ball full upfront.

Next to go was in-form top-order bat Muneeba, getting out in a tame manner to spinner Onnich Kamchomphu's off-spin. She got a top-edge while sweeping a straight forward delivery to get dismissed by an easy catch in the circle.

Player of the match for Pakistan in their encounter against Scotland — Aliya Riaz fell to a run out again.

Her dismissal was reminiscent of the way she got out in the previous match against the West Indies — getting run out by miles after a mix-up in the middle with Sidra. Right-handed batter Sidra, however, was again the player who stepped up during a moment of crisis for Pakistan.

Pakistan's Squash stars shine at Australian Junior Open



SAMRA ATHAR

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's rising squash stars have once again demonstrated the country's legacy in the sport, delivering a spectacular performance at the 2025 Australian Junior Open by winning an impressive four gold medals and one silver — a clear signal that Pakistan's squash dominance is far from fading.

According to information made available here

by Pakistan Squash Federation, young athletes from across Pakistan stepped onto the international court with confidence and skill, outplaying their global counterparts in a tournament that saw fierce competition and high-stakes matches.

Ahmad Ali Naz dazzled in the U11 Boys category, showing skill well beyond his years.

Azan Ali Khan proved unstoppable in the U17

Boys division, displaying tactical brilliance. Asif Ali took home gold in the U13 Girls, marking herself as a future champion. Mehwish Ali, with her powerful gameplan, conquered the U15 Girls field.

Adding to Pakistan's medal haul, Sehrish Ali earned a well-fought silver medal in the U15 Girls category, further showcasing the depth of talent emerging from the country.

Three-way race for PFF Presidency emerges amid controversy

SEHRISH NAZ

LAHORE: Following the ban imposed on Zahir Shah by the Disciplinary Committee of the Pakistan Football Federation's (PFF) Normalisation Committee (NC), the race for the presidency has officially become a three-way contest.

As the deadline for submission of nomination papers expired at midnight on April 16, three candidates have stepped forward: Barrister Taha Alizai (backed by the Zahir Shah Group), Hafiz Zakauallah (from Punjab) and Mirza Mirza (from Sindh), and



Mohsin Gilani (reportedly backed by segments of a key government institution). The final two days leading up to the deadline were filled with uncertainty, particularly among departments that

hold voting power within the PFF Congress. Multiple departments hesitated to confirm their support, and several even reversed their positions under alleged external pressure.

According to PFF election rules, a candidate must have the backing of at least five Congress members to be eligible. Of the three, Hafiz Zakauallah is the only one without any departmen-

tal support, with all five of his backers coming solely from within the football community.

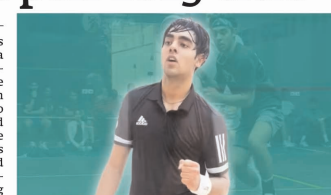
Meanwhile, one of the new candidates—believed to be Mohsin Gilani—is reportedly leveraging influence and seeking active support from the Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) to sway departmental votes in his favour.

In addition to the presidential vote, the May 2025 elections will also decide key positions, including three Vice Presidents, eight Executive Committee members (two from each province), and three members representing government-affiliated organisations.

Ashab annexes St. Louis Open 2025 title

MUHAMMAD USMAN

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ashab Irfan delivered a phenomenal performance, securing the \$15,000 St. Louis Open 2025 title, according to information received here on Friday. "We are grateful to Allah for his continued success and dedication to representing Pakistan, bringing immense joy to his supporters and Pakistan Squash Federation," his coach Jahanzeb Masood said in a statement. "As his coach, I can attest to his tireless work ethic and perseverance during training sessions. I



extend my appreciation to his family and supporters for their unwavering belief in him. "Additionally, I thank Houston Squash Club, Kansas Sports North America and Alpha Bravo

Construction for their sponsorship, which has been instrumental in his success," he said. "Following this victory, Ashab's ranking will significantly improve from 6-4 to 57.

ITF Pakistan World Juniors Tennis Championship 2025 Leg-2 continued at the PTF Tennis Complex in Islamabad

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) is pleased to inform you that the ITF Pakistan World Juniors Tennis Championship 2025 Leg-2 continued at the PTF Tennis Complex in Islamabad. A total of 36 boys and 24 girls representing 18 countries, including Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Singapore, Turkey, Japan, China, Austria, Uzbekistan, the United Kingdom, Canada, Russia, Sweden, Korea, Saudi



Arabia, Tunisia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Romania and Sri Lanka, are participating in the

championship. The boy's Singles final will be played between Nadir Mirza-Pakistan vs



Takaya tomorrow 10th April, 2025 at 3:30PM. The results are as

under: Girls Singles Final: Haniya Aman (KSA) bt Alisha Korolyova(KAZ) 6-1, 6-



0Boys Doubles Final: Yuxuan Li / Haolin Liu (CHN) bt Nadir Mirza / Mikael Ali Baig(PAK) 6-

4, 4-6(4), 10-8Boys Doubles Semi Final: Nadir Mirza / Mikael Ali Baig(PAK) bt Takaya Ishi

(JPN) / Yagiz Yildiz (TUR) 6-1, 6-2; Yuxuan Li / Haolin Liu (CHN) bt Abubakar Talha (PAK) / Luke Jie(SCP) 6-3, 6-4Girls Doubles Final: Aruzhan Bayalina(KAZ) / Sofiya (KAZ) bt Haniya Aman (KSA) Zihan Feng(CHN) 2-6, 6-2(10-7)Girls Doubles Semi Finals: Aruzhan Bayalina(KAZ) / Sofiya (KAZ) bt Rino Shinden / Nana Okawa(JPN) 4-6, 6-1(10-8); Haniya Aman (KSA) Zihan Feng(CHN) bt Anna Ali Qayum (PAK) / Serife Pelin(TUR) 6-4, 7-5.



ISLAMABAD: President Pakistan People's Party Human Rights Cell and former senator Farhat Ullah Babar addressing a press conference, in the Federal Capital.

Pakistan, Egypt to Collaborate on Hepatitis C Eradication and Medical Tourism

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Egypt have agreed to strengthen bilateral collaboration in the health sector, with a primary focus on eliminating Hepatitis C and expanding cooperation in technical training and medical tourism. The understanding was reached during a meeting between Federal Health Minister Mustafa Kamal and the Egyptian Ambassador to Pakistan, Dr. Ihab Mohamed Abdelhamed. The session marked a key step forward in regional health diplomacy, where both nations expressed a shared commitment to combating public health challenges

through joint strategies and knowledge sharing. At the heart of the discussion was the proposal to develop collaborative programs targeting Hepatitis C—an area in which Egypt has recently achieved remarkable success. The two sides discussed ways to leverage Egypt's experience in reducing the prevalence of the disease and applying similar interventions within Pakistan. Health Minister Kamal welcomed Egypt's willingness to assist in the area, emphasizing the need to adopt proven international practices in local contexts. He noted that Egypt's public health achievements offer valuable guidance, particularly in infectious dis-

ease control. He added that Pakistan is keen to learn from Egypt's journey and replicate its best practices for the benefit of Pakistani citizens. To support this vision, a delegation of Egyptian health experts is expected to visit Pakistan in the near future. The experts will offer technical assistance, conduct training, and contribute to the development of Pakistan's healthcare capacities, especially in diagnostics and treatment strategies for Hepatitis C. The meeting also underscored the importance of promoting medical tourism and enhancing technical cooperation between the two countries. Both sides agreed that training healthcare profession-

als, sharing innovations, and investing in healthcare infrastructure can serve as the foundation of long-term cooperation. Federal Health Minister Kamal expressed optimism about the collaboration and stressed its potential to bring real impact. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to improving healthcare delivery and acknowledged Egypt's offer of support as timely and critical to Pakistan's public health agenda. The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination will lead the development of an implementation roadmap to translate the shared commitments into actionable outcomes.

University Town Housing Scheme Office Sealed Over Violations; RDA and ICT Conduct Joint Operation

NADEEM TANOLI

RAWALPINDI: In a decisive move to enforce urban planning laws, the Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA), in collaboration with the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration, sealed the head office of the University Town Housing Scheme situated in G-11 Markaz, Islamabad. The action was carried out under the directives of RDA Director General Kinza Murtaza. According to an RDA spokesperson, the sealing of the office came in response to serious violations of the Punjab Development Authorities Private Housing Schemes Rules, 2021. These violations included the unlawful sale of plots, illegal development

activities, and deceptive marketing practices. The spokesperson further revealed that the scheme had been the subject of multiple complaints by allottees submitted through various platforms including the Ombudsman Punjab, CM Portal, and PM Portal. Director General Kinza Murtaza reaffirmed the authority's resolve to uphold the law, stating that RDA remains committed to protecting the public's interests and ensuring all housing schemes adhere strictly to regulatory frameworks. She emphasized that violations threatening the safety and well-being of residents or undermining the integrity of urban development would not be tolerated. The operation, part of a broader initiative to strengthen estate management standards, was led by Director MP&TE Muhammad Tahir Meo. Deputy Director Planning Samiullah Niazi, Deputy Director Administration Itikhar Ali, Assistant Director Planning Ali Raza, and Islamabad Magistrate Chulam Murtaza, along with other team members, RDA has vowed to continue monitoring housing developments and take further legal steps as necessary to ensure full compliance. This operation highlights the authority's active enforcement approach, aiming to promote transparency, accountability, and sustainable urban planning across the region.

Islamabad International Airport hits record Rs. 72.3 million in March 2025

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad International Airport (IIAP) has reported an unprecedented surge in cargo throughput charges, collecting Rs. 72.3 million in March 2025, the highest monthly revenue recorded since November 2021, when the figure stood at Rs. 49 million.

According to the Pakistan Airports Authority, the significant uptick in revenue is largely driven by the launch of dedicated import cargo operations by M/S SF Cargo. The service, which

began in March, utilizes Boeing 757-200 aircraft operating under flight numbers 03-233/234 on the Urumqi-Islamabad-Urumqi (URC-15B-URC) route.

Each flight carries an estimated 22,775 kilograms of cargo. Initially scheduled twice a week, every Tuesday and Friday, the flights arrive at IIAP around 11:30 a.m., contributing a steady and sizeable flow of freight traffic to the airport. Given the promising early performance of SF Cargo has already indicated plans to double the flight frequency to four times a week in the near future. "The introduction of regular, high-capacity cargo operations by SF Cargo has brought a welcome boost to our revenue and has reaffirmed Islamabad Airport's strategic importance as a regional logistics hub," said a spokesperson for the Pakistan Airports Authority. "This initiative exemplifies the promise of hope and redemption offered by the death and resurrection of Jesus, concepts central to their faith. It was the prelude to this weekend's Easter celebrations. Easter is the most significant time of year for Christians, more so even than Christmas, which marks the birth of Jesus. Together, these holy days reflect the foundations of a faith that rejects violence and promotes compassion for those in need. So, it was interesting to see how Christians reacted last weekend to two incidents of violence by terrorist armies. One was an attack by Russian forces on the city of Sumy in Ukraine, where dozens of civilians celebrating Palm Sunday were massacred. The other was an assault by Israeli forces on several locations in Gaza City that claimed the lives of dozens of Palestinians, including strikes that destroyed or damaged parts of the Anglican Al-Anhi hospital. Christians in the West, including America, awoke on Palm Sunday to a deluge of news stories about the killing of 33 people in Sumy, and the resultant outrage expressed by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and leaders around the world. When the Israeli strikes in Gaza were mentioned, the media didn't make the connection between the victims and the Christian hospital. 2,200 kilometers from Sumy, Israel launched missile strikes on Gaza City that killed more than 20 Palestinians and destroyed or damaged parts of Al-Anhi Hospital, a symbol of the Christian presence in the territory that has been erased by the 19-month Israeli assault. The mainstream news media was full of details and descriptions of the Russian missile strikes on Sumy in Ukraine and the 33 people killed there, but less so when it came to covering Israel's bombing of the Christian-run Al-Anhi Hospital, and the 20 people killed there. Most people understand the reasons for this discrepancy in humanity displayed not only by Christians but by nearly everyone in the US; Israel's government has America in a "headlock of intimidation." Anyone who criticizes Israel is automatically denounced as antisemitic. Holders of Green Cards and visas who dare to speak out against the genocide in Gaza are rounded up, accused of supporting "Hamas" and "terrorism." When the American media covered the Russian attacks on Sumy, the timing of Palm Sunday was a prominent part of the story. Ukraine is a Christian nation. But when the Israeli strikes in Gaza were mentioned, the media didn't make the connection between the victims and the Christian hospital. Courtesy Dawn

Opinion & Editorial

Housing for people

Syeda Theheen Abidi

In August 2022, when Pakistan faced one of the most devastating climate disasters in its history, with one-third of the country submerged under water, the tragedy left millions of citizens displaced, homeless and vulnerable. The floods brought untold destruction, but they also offered a moment to rethink disaster recovery, to envision a future where rebuilding goes beyond the physical structures, on where justice, dignity and empowerment are central to the restoration process. Under the leadership of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, the Sindh government undertook an unprecedented initiative to rebuild the lives of those affected.

The Sindh People's Housing for Flood Affecteds (SPHF) programme stands as the largest provincial post-disaster housing project in Pakistan's history, encompassing an ambitious target of over 2.1 million homes to be rebuilt across the flood-affected areas. This initiative is not merely a reconstruction project but an embodiment of a progressive vision that goes beyond the restoration of physical homes to include a deep commitment to social justice, gender equity, and sustainability.

The SPHF programme, which spans a number of districts, is significant not only for its scale but for its unwavering focus on ownership equity, women's empowerment and inclusive development. At the centre of this is a historic policy that for the first time in Pakistan's history, women are being granted legal ownership rights to homes built through the program. More than 800,000 women, many of whom have never been able to inherit or own property, are now recognised as owners. This single decision has redefined the socio-economic landscape of Sindh, granting women more than just homes; it is granting them control over their economic future and independence.

In Sindh, where cultural norms and property laws have long denied women the right to own land or property, this initiative is revolution-

ary. The Sindh government's decision to prioritise women as homeowners represents a monumental step forward in empowering women within both the public and private spheres. It ensures that their voices are heard and their rights are respected. It marks a profound shift from a history of marginalization, where women were often seen as secondary actors in property ownership and inheritance, to a future where women are central to the reconstruction and recovery of their communities.

Alongside this empowerment of women, the SPHF programme also prioritises the most vulnerable groups – including persons with disabilities, landless peasants, marginalized indigenous communities and informal settlers. Over 110,000 individuals with disabilities have been identified as beneficiaries of the program, ensuring that they too are not left behind in the recovery process. This inclusive approach reflects the vision of the PPP, which has consistently championed the rights of the marginalised, making it one of the most progressive political forces in the country.

The geographical scope of the programme spans every district affected by the 2022 floods. From the coastal areas of Thatta and Sujawal to the interior regions of Dadu, Kashmore and Larkana, every affected district is receiving attention and resources to rebuild. The impact of this effort is not just felt in urban centres but throughout the rural heartlands of Sindh, where access to government support is often limited.

For example, in Sukkur, over 80,000 homes are under construction, while Kashmore has already received 4,200 homes, with 10,000 more currently under construction. In districts like Jacobabad, Ghotki and Hyderabad, thousands of families have already been relocated into new, disaster-resilient homes, while others wait for their homes to be completed. This far-reaching initiative has transformed the recovery narrative from one of dependency and survival to one of restoration and empowerment.

One of the standout features of

the programme is the technological integration that has ensured transparency, efficiency and accountability. The Sindh government, in collaboration with experts and international partners, is using cutting-edge technologies such as drone-assisted land mapping, real-time monitoring and geospatial data to track the progress of construction and ensure that homes are built in a timely and sustainable manner.

The solar energy solutions incorporated into the housing designs further reflect the government's commitment to sustainable development. Over 200,000 homes are being powered with solar energy, reducing reliance on the national grid and contributing to Pakistan's broader environmental goals. The financial backing for the SPHF programme has been robust and multi-faceted. The World Bank has committed \$500 million to support this initiative, recognising the scale and importance of this programme in Pakistan's disaster recovery landscape. This global recognition has positioned Sindh as a leader in climate justice – a beacon of hope for other regions that may face similar climate-induced challenges. The Sindh government has also matched this commitment with \$227 million from its own resources, proving its dedication to not just recovery, but a new way forward. These contributions have been instrumental in ensuring the smooth and swift execution of the programme. Despite these achievements, the programme has faced its share of challenges. The federal government's unfulfilled commitment of Rs60 billion in promised funds has created delays and put additional pressure on provincial resources. However, despite these setbacks, Sindh's resilience has shone through. The government has continued to push forward, driven by a sense of urgency and an unwavering commitment to the people of Sindh. The lessons learned from these challenges have reinforced the need for greater provincial autonomy and decentralised governance, especially when responding to crises. Courtesy The News

Christians weep for victims in Ukraine but not Gaza

RAY HANANIA

Palm Sunday last week marked the start of the religious holiday during which Christians contemplate the promise of hope and redemption offered by the death and resurrection of Jesus, concepts central to their faith.

It was the prelude to this weekend's Easter celebrations. Easter is the most significant time of year for Christians, more so even than Christmas, which marks the birth of Jesus. Together, these holy days reflect the foundations of a faith that rejects violence and promotes compassion for those in need. So, it was interesting to see how Christians reacted last weekend to two incidents of violence by terrorist armies.

One was an attack by Russian forces on the city of Sumy in Ukraine, where dozens of civilians celebrating Palm Sunday were massacred. The other was an assault by Israeli forces on several locations in Gaza City that claimed the lives of dozens of Palestinians, including strikes that destroyed or damaged parts of the Anglican Al-Anhi hospital.

Christians in the West, including America, awoke on Palm Sunday to a deluge of news stories about the killing of 33 people in Sumy, and the resultant outrage expressed by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and leaders around the world.

When the Israeli strikes in Gaza were mentioned, the media didn't make the connection between the victims and the Christian hospital.

2,200 kilometers from Sumy, Israel launched missile strikes on Gaza City that killed more than 20 Palestinians and destroyed or damaged parts of Al-Anhi Hospital, a symbol of the Christian presence in the territory that has been erased by the 19-month Israeli assault.

The mainstream news media was full of details and descriptions of the Russian missile strikes on Sumy in Ukraine and the 33 people killed there, but less so when it came to covering Israel's bombing of the Christian-run Al-Anhi Hospital, and the 20 people killed there.

Most people understand the reasons for this discrepancy in humanity displayed not only by Christians but by nearly everyone in the US; Israel's government has America in a "headlock of intimidation." Anyone who criticizes Israel is automatically denounced as antisemitic.

Holdings of Green Cards and visas who dare to speak out against the genocide in Gaza are rounded up, accused of supporting "Hamas" and "terrorism."

When the American media covered the Russian attacks on Sumy, the timing of Palm Sunday was a prominent part of the story. Ukraine is a Christian nation. But when the Israeli strikes in Gaza were mentioned, the media didn't make the connection between the victims and the Christian hospital. Courtesy Dawn

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Healing history

Pakistan and Bangladesh held a foreign secretary-level Foreign Office Consultation (FOC) meeting in Dhaka on Thursday—the first such diplomatic engagement between the two countries in 15 years. The last FOC was held in 2010, where discussions covered contentious and unresolved issues such as Pakistan's unconditional apology for the 1971 war crimes, compensation for war damages, repatriation of stranded Pakistanis, Bangladesh's share of pre-1971 assets and the repayment of foreign aid following the 1970 cyclone. Unfortunately, little progress was made at the time. In this context, regional observers are viewing the recent resumption of dialogue as not just a positive sign, but a necessary and welcome development. For far too long has Pakistan lagged in strengthening its relationships with its neighbours. The South Asian region has borne the burden of protracted hostility, particularly between India and Pakistan, for over seven decades. Regional cooperation has often been held hostage to tensions between the two countries and this is a key reason why Saarc, despite its potential, has remained largely ineffective. India's role in the region has often been criticised for being overbearing. While Pakistan, as a nuclear power, has resisted coercion, India has tended to treat its smaller neighbours as if they were satellite states. Its relations with most neighbouring countries have been strained, especially under the Modi regime. New Delhi's unwavering support for Sheikh Hasina in Bangladesh, despite growing domestic public sentiment towards her authoritarian governance, alienated many within Bangladesh. Pakistan, on the other hand, took a more principled stance against Hasina's politically vindictive policies.

Pakistan ready for 'Fourth Take-Off', emphasizes for political stability: Ahsan Iqbal

PEAK POINT

QUETTA: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal on Friday said that Pakistan is prepared for its "fourth take-off" towards progress, strengthening economy, enhancing exports and emphasized the need for national unity, political stability, and consistent policies to ensure sustainable development.

Speaking at the "Uraan Pakistan" provincial consultative workshop in Quetta, organized by the Ministry of Planning, Ahsan Iqbal said that Pakistan had previously suffered due to political turmoil. He urged the nation to play active role for the development to strengthen the economy in order to make the country as economic hub. He announced that the feder-

al government, in collaboration with the Balochistan government, will modernize infrastructure, education, healthcare, agriculture, and mining sectors under the Uraan Pakistan 2035 vision. The aim, he said, is to lift the people of Balochistan out of darkness and into the light of development.

Through the "Uraan Pakistan" initiative, the federal government aims to bring the people of Balochistan out of the darkness of backwardness into the light of progress.

He said stressed to identify and address the root causes of the problems facing by the country, and maintained law and order, political stability, and continuity of policies, the country would become one of the world's leading

economies. Chief Minister of Balochistan Sarfaraz Bugti and provincial ministers, parliamentarians and officials were present at the event.

Ahsan Iqbal appreciated the organizing of the provincial consultative workshop for Uraan Pakistan. Under the Uraan Pakistan 2035 plan, the goal is to make Pakistan's economy worth trillions of dollars.

Highlighting past achievements, Iqbal recalled the progress made from 2013 to 2018, including the end of 16-hour electricity shortage, improved law and order, and the construction of hundreds of kilometers of roads in Balochistan. He said there was no proper road linking from Gwadar to Quetta in the past, "he said.



Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal, and Chief Minister Balochistan, Sarfaraz Bugti, attending the URAAN Pakistan Consultative Workshop in Quetta.

Pak-GCC Anti-Narcotics delegations meet Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Heads of delegation of the Pak-GCC Anti-Narcotics Conference called on Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Mohsin Naqvi in Islamabad.



The delegation included UAE's DC Anti-Narcotics Department of Brigadier Saeed Abdullah Alsuwaidi, Qatar's DC Anti-Narcotics Department Colonel Rashid Saree Rashid Al Kaabi, Saudi Arabia's DC Narcotics Control Major General Saad bin Saud Al Ajmi, Oman's DC for Combating Narcotics Brigadier Mohammed Saleh Ali Rashid Al Ghellani, Bahrain's Director Anti-Narcotics Department Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed Khalid Al Bunainain, Kuwait's Director Operations Colonel Naseer Bader Ajman and GCC, CISC Director Brigadier Saad Al Kuwari, Minister of State for Interior Talal

Chaudhry, Interior Secretary Muhammad Khurram Agha and Director General Anti-Narcotics Force Major General Abdul Moeed were also present on the occasion.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi thanked the delegations of UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman for participating in the Pak-GCC Conference. On this occasion, Director General Anti-Narcotics Force Major General Abdul Moeed briefed regarding the recommendations of the Pak-GCC Conference. Federal

Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Mohsin Naqvi congratulated the delegates of ANF Pakistan and Gulf Cooperation Council on the successful conference and appreciated their full cooperation. All of the delegates reiterated their full cooperation with the Government of Pakistan in the fight against narcotics. During the meeting, it was decided to hold a meeting of the Anti-Narcotics Ministers of Pak-GCC countries by the end of this year.

Mohsin Naqvi said that major decisions will be taken in this meeting to combat narcotics. He said that as a result of the recommendations of the conference regarding the fight against narcotics, mutual cooperation will be further strengthened. He added that these recommendations will help in formulating an effective strategy, we can eradicate the scourge of narcotics from the society with collective efforts.

Mohsin Naqvi welcomed all the delegates and underscored that all the GCC countries are very respectful to us.

Pakistan, Bangladesh convene sixth round of bilateral consultations in Dhaka

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Bangladesh convened the Sixth Round of Foreign Secretary-Level Bilateral Consultations in Dhaka, following a hiatus of 15 years. The talks, led by Foreign Secretary Amna Baloch (Pakistan) and Foreign Secretary Md. Jashim Uddin (Bangladesh), were held in a cordial atmosphere and reflected a shared resolve to revitalize bilateral engagement, according to a statement issued by the Foreign Office Spokesperson on Friday.

The two sides held a comprehensive exchange on political, economic, cultural, educational, and strategic cooperation, underpinned by shared history, cultural affinities, and the common aspirations of their peoples. Satisfaction was expressed at recent high-level contacts in New York, Cairo, Samoa, and Jeddah, which have helped reenergize the bilateral relationship.

Both sides emphasized the importance of maintaining momentum

through regular institutional dialogue, early finalization of pending agreements, and enhanced cooperation in trade, agriculture, education, and connectivity. Pakistan offered academic opportunities in its agricultural universities, while Bangladesh offered technical training in fisheries and maritime studies.

The Bangladeshi side also acknowledged scholarship offers from private universities in Pakistan and underscored the need for deeper cooperation in the education sector.

Recognizing connectivity as a priority, the two sides welcomed the launch of direct shipping between Karachi and Chittagang and emphasized the importance of resuming direct air links. They also expressed satisfaction over the progress made in easing travel and visa facilitation. The Bangladeshi side appreciated recent performances by renowned Pakistani artists in Dhaka, while the Pakistani side encouraged reciprocal cultural exchanges.

Chairperson BISP resolves for transparency, service delivery, social welfare

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Senator Rubina Khalid, during a visit to the BISP Regional Headquarters in Karachi on Friday, reviewed ongoing operations and emphasized the organization's unwavering commitment to transparency, efficiency, and public service.

During the visit, the Director General Sindh presented a detailed briefing on the scope and impact of BISP initiatives in the province, said a news release. He noted that over 2.7 million families were currently receiving financial assistance under the Unconditional Cash



Transfer (UCT) - Benazir Kafalat programme. Furthermore, the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) scheme for education, Benazir Taleemi Wazaif, has supported the enrollment of 2.5 million children, enabling continued education for students from underprivileged backgrounds. The DG also highlighted the Benazir Nasonuma programme, which addresses nutritional challenges and supports approximately 5.6 million expectant and lactating mothers and infants across Sindh.

Senator Rubina Khalid took note of public grievances, particularly those from Sukkur and surrounding districts, and directed BISP officials to expedite the resolution of beneficiaries' complaints.

Pakistan, Iran vow to boost cooperation in Science, Technology and Education

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan, Dr. Reza Amir Moghadam in a meeting with the Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Khalid Hussain Magi on Thursday discussed new avenues of bilateral cooperation, Pakistani travel guides.

The ambassador was accompanied by the Iran's Deputy Minister for Science, Research and Technology, Dr. Abolfaz Balidi during the meeting. The meeting focused on enhancing partnerships in science, technology, and education, with both sides expressing a firm commitment to



deepen academic and scientific ties. Khalid Magi emphasized the significant potential for collaboration between the two neighboring countries, proposing the launch of joint projects of mutual interest. Highlighting the importance of academic linkages, both parties agreed to promote university-to-university cooper-

Vaccination process of intending Hujjaj to start next week: Sardar Yousuf

PEAK POINT

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Sardar Muhammad Yousuf on Friday, informed that vaccination process of intending Hujjaj would start next week and various centers have been established in major cities of the country for the purpose including Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur in Sindh.

Vaccination process of intending Hujjaj to start next week, Sardar Yousuf while addressing intending pilgrims and talking to media persons

during visit of Bait-ul-Hajj Karachi, he informed that training process of the intending pilgrims was in final stages that was carried out in phased manner across the country to equip them with basic knowledge about the entire process of Hajj (obligatory acts of Hajj) as well as legal or formal requirements, use of Nusuk and other relevant matters. Sardar Yousuf said that more than 100,000 intending pilgrims would travel to holy lands for performing Hajj 2025. Among them,

89,000 pilgrims will travel under the government scheme while 23000 pilgrims will make their journey through private Hajj operator scheme, he told.

Sardar Yousuf informed that over 21000 Pakistanis would fly from Karachi airport that has been embedded in the Route to Makkah initiative of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia allowing hassle free immigration process at Saudi airports. The Road to Makkah facility is currently available in two cities of the country- Islamabad and Karachi and the government was striving for

expansion of the facility to Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar and other major cities of Pakistan, he added.

The federal minister said Saudi government has further improved the overall Hajj arrangements and also introduced NUSUK and other new initiatives while the government of Pakistan made the best arrangements as well to facilitate the pilgrims this year which included quality residence near the Hajj Terminal, Sharifain round the clock transport, air conditioned tents and other facilities.

Rana Tanveer chairs meeting

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: An important meeting regarding the training of agriculture graduates was held under the chairmanship of the Minister for National Food Security and Research, Rana Tanveer Hussain here Friday. While appreciating the departure of the first batch of graduates, the minister acknowledged the hard work and dedication of all officers involved. He also conveyed that in Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has appreciated the team's collective efforts. During the meeting, Rana Tanveer Hussain directed to further enhance and strengthen the collaboration between students and Chinese universities for training purposes.

He directed for the urgent completion of the next batch's processing, with a firm deadline. The minister emphasized the need to extend the training duration from 3 months to 6 months, particularly in those universities that previously offered shorter programs. He also decided to increase the number of students per university from 50 to 100, with all programs to be aligned with a six-month training model. He highlighted the importance of focusing on Chinese universities that specialize in advanced agricultural technology, which could play a key role in Pakistan's future agricultural development.

No Visa, No Stay: Pakistan sets April 30 deadline for Foreign Nationals

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State Talal Chaudhry on Friday has announced that all foreign nationals without valid visas must leave Pakistan by April 30, reaffirming the government's firm policy on the repatriation of undocumented immigrants, particularly Afghan nationals. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, the minister emphasized that while Pakistan has shown unparalleled hospitality for decades, the time has come to strictly enforce immigration laws. "We welcomed our Afghan brothers for 40 years with open hearts, but no country in the world allows anyone to live without a visa and Pakistan cannot be an exception," he stated. Chaudhry shared that 8,860 Afghan nationals have been repatriated



since April 1 as part of the ongoing national policy to return individuals residing in Pakistan illegally. He clarified that the repatriation process is being conducted in a lawful, organized, and humane manner, and that Pakistani authorities are working closely with Afghan counterparts to facilitate the transition. A major part of the government's enforcement strategy focuses on those providing accommodation, employment, or services to undocumented foreigners. Talal Chaudhry revealed that strict action will be taken against Pakistani citizens who rent out shops, homes, or hotel rooms to illegal immigrants, or hire them for jobs. "We have communicated clear instructions to all provinces, if anyone gives a shop, house, or any kind of space to an illegal foreigner, they will be held accountable under the law," he said.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Sardar Muhammad Yousaf briefing the media at Hajj Camp.