



Defence minister hails army, reaffirms national unity



Enemy will now think 100 times before any misadventure, says Naqvi



Pakistan aims for economic glory after military victory over India: Attaullah Tarar

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'India is not US and Pakistan is not Afghanistan', ISPR chief tells Delhi

ARIF MEHMOOD KHAN

RAWALPINDI: Inter-Services Public Relations Director General (DG ISPR) Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry on Sunday warned India of "swift response to any aggression", saying that Pakistan will not tolerate Indian hegemony.

"The truth is that India is not the US and Pakistan is not Afghanistan. India is not Israel and Pakistan is not Palestine. Pakistan will never be deterred. It can never be coerced," the military's spokesperson said while speaking to Anadolu Agency.

"We will never bow down to Indian hegemony. The sooner they realise this, the better it will be for regional peace and the world," he noted.

He made these remarks days after the success of Operation Bunyan-um-Marsoos against India's unprovoked aggression.

Pakistan armed forces launched a large-scale retaliatory military action, named "Operation Bunyan-um-Marsoos", and targeted several Indian military targets across multiple regions.

The strikes, described by officials as "precise and proportionate", were carried out in response to India's continued aggression across the Line of Control (LoC) and within Pakistan's territory, which New Delhi claimed were aimed at "terrorist targets".

Pakistan downed its six fighter jets, including three Rafale, and dozens of drones. After at least 87 hours, the war between the two



nuclear-armed nations ended on May 10 with a ceasefire agreement brokered by the United States.

According to ISPR, a total of 53 individuals, including 13 personnel of the armed forces and 40 civilians, were martyred in Indian strikes during the recent military confrontation.

The military confrontation

between the two countries was triggered by last month's attack in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) that left 26 tourists dead, with India blaming Pakistan for the attack without offering any evidence.

Speaking to the Turkish news agency today, Lt Gen Chaudhry said that India had failed to provide any evidence to support its allegations of blaming Pakistan for the attack in the Pahalgam district, adding that the New Delhi government was "using the incidents as an excuse for terrorism" and should abandon this.

He argued that terrorism, extremism and hatred were India's internal problems and that the New Delhi government was cracking down on groups including Muslims and Sikhs in the

country, which was fuelling more anger, extremism and terrorism.

He pointed out that all this terrorism in Pakistan was "supported and encouraged" by India. "There is a lot of evidence linking India to the terrorist incidents in Pakistan," he said, reminding that they sent this evidence to the International Court of Justice.

Recalling that India had attacked different parts of Pakistan with missiles and drones, the DG ISPR said, "They were trying to prevent us from taking just revenge for the killing of innocent children and women, but they forgot that we are not a nation or a state that can be deterred or prevented. We never bow down to aggression and tyranny, and we will never bow down."

Defence minister hails army, reaffirms national unity

JAVED KHAN

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif has said that while Pakistan has witnessed many great moments over the past 78 years, the recent victory granted by Allah Almighty to Pakistan and its armed forces is "unparalleled in our history." Addressing students at a private school during a visit to his native town, the minister lauded the Pakistan Army for its successful operation and congratulated the armed forces for their decisive action. "Our enemy sits just a few miles away on the eastern border, licking its wounds," Asif remarked, referring to recent escalations.

"What seemed like cracks in our national unity just two weeks ago have now transformed into a renewed spirit of solidarity, thanks to the bravery and sacrifices of our armed forces," he said.

The defence minister extended heartfelt congratulations to Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir, Air Chief Marshal Zahoor Ahmed Bابر, Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf, and Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Shah Shamsud Mirza.

He praised their leadership and valour, saying, "I have witnessed every conflict since 1965, but the faith-driven leadership and courage shown this time is unmatched in our history."

Pakistan to send high-level diplomatic mission globally to 'expose Indian propoganda': state media

SAMRA ATHAR

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday decided to send a "high-level diplomatic delegation to important world capitals to expose Indian propoganda" in the aftermath of the recent military escalation with India, state-run Radio Pakistan reported.

The military confrontation between New Delhi and Islamabad came as tensions over last month's Pahalgam attack continued to build up, as India —without evidence —blamed Pakistan for the attack. On the night of May 6-7, India launched a series of air strikes in Punjab and Azad Kashmir, resulting in civilian casualties. Islamabad responded by downing five Indian jets.

After intercepting drones sent by India and tit-for-tat strikes on each other's airbases, it took American intervention on May 10 for both sides to finally drop their guns and declare a ceasefire. India has since continued its aggressive



posturing even as Pakistan has warned against any further military aggression and offered talks.

In light of the situation, PM Shehbaz decided to send a high-level diplomatic delegation to important world capitals to counter Indian propoganda related to the escalation and the Pahalgam attack.

"In a telephonic conversation with Chairman Pakistan

People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, the prime minister has entrusted the leadership of the delegation to him," the report said. The delegation comprises Dr Musadik Malik, Engineer Khurram Dastgir, Senator Sherry Rehman, Hina Rabbani Khar, Faisal Subzwari, Tehmina Janjua and Jalli Abbas Jilani, it added.

"The delegation will visit London, Washington, Paris,

and Brussels to highlight India's disinformation campaign and its attempts to destabilise regional peace," the report added.

"It will also underscore Pakistan's sincere efforts for peace and stability in the region."

Yesterday, former foreign minister Bilawal, in a post on X, announced that he was appointed by the premier to "lead a delegation to present Pakistan's case for peace on the international stage."

"I am honoured to accept this responsibility and remain committed to serving Pakistan in these challenging times," he wrote.

In a similar development, the Indian government also announced that seven all-party delegations would visit key partner countries, including members of the UN Security Council, later this month to present the case of India on terrorism and "project India's national consensus."

Pakistan aims to bridge South and Central Asian economies: Abdul Aleem

AEYSHA REHAN

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan has said that Pakistan aims to emerge as a key transit hub, bridging the economies of South Asia and Central Asia, state-run Radio Pakistan reported on Sunday.

A high-level delegation from Pakistan, led by the federal minister, participated in the Kazan Forum organised under the auspices of the Russian Federation in the capital of Tatarstan.

"Gwadar Port has already started shipment and cargo services, while Pakistan intends to facilitate Central Asia's access to warm waters," Radio Pakistan quoted the minister as saying while addressing the closing session. Aleem said the Mazar-i-Sharif to Kohat Railway Project is expected to cost around \$633 million. He spoke about Pakistan's strategic plans to connect Karachi, Quetta and Gwadar cities with Central Asia and Europe through road networks. The minister welcomed the holding of the Kazan Forum



and reaffirmed Pakistan's strong commitment to playing an active role in regional development. On the opening day on Friday, while addressing the session on Cultural Dialogue, the minister emphasised that Pakistan possesses a rich historical and social heritage. Associated Press of Pakistan reported. He welcomed cultural exchanges with Russia and Central Asian states, terming such initiatives a positive and promising step towards achiev-

ing a peaceful world and paving the way for harmony. Aleem underscored the importance of preserving multifaceted cultural heritage and stressed that through mutual dialogue and understanding, the world can become more peaceful, diverse and harmonious.

He appreciated the organisation of the Russia-Islamic World Kazan Forum 2025 and reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to playing an active role in the region, particularly in the com-

munications sector, to enhance trade and strengthen the national economy.

On the sidelines of the forum, the minister held a meeting with the chairman of Dubai Ports, Customs and Free Zone Corporation, Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem. They discussed matters related to shipping and cargo logistics between Pakistan and Dubai ports. Aleem highlighted Pakistan's keen interest in expanding bilateral trade relations and deliberated on various projects, including investing in Pakistan's M6, M9, and N-25 Highways. Both sides discussed the broader agenda of the Kazan Forum and expressed their commitment to enhancing future cooperation and strengthening bilateral relations.

Enemy will now think 100 times before any misadventure, says Mohsin Naqvi

HUMA REHAN

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday visited Markaz Mustafa in Gujranwala and congratulated the nation on the Pak forces' victory against India. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi appreciated the exemplary role of Markaz Mustafa in serving the religion of Islam. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi praised the positive role of Markaz Mustafa students. Talking on the occasion, Mohsin Naqvi said that in a tense situation, the Pakistani nation has emerged as a pillar of strength. Mohsin Naqvi said the Pakistani nation has defeated the powerful enemy with iron unity. We thank Allah Almighty for the great victory, Mohsin Naqvi said. He said that the Fatah missiles have struck fear into the enemy, and the so-called power has been shattered, and the entire nation stood by the armed forces. The enemy will now think a hundred times before any misadventure, Mohsin Naqvi said. During his visit, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi also visited various sections of Markaz Mustafa. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi met with Maulana Muhammad Raza Saqib Mustafai, Patron-in-Chief of Markaz Mustafa. Maulana Muhammad Raza Saqib Mustafai said the Pakistani nation wanted a befitting reply, which was given by our brave armed forces. Maulana Muhammad Raza Saqib Mustafai said the nation showed exemplary courage and fearlessness, and the help of Allah Almighty was with them.



Lahore Qalandars beat Peshawar Zalmi to enter PSL X playoffs

MUHAMMAD USMAN

RAWALPINDI: Lahore Qalandars defeated Peshawar Zalmi by 26 runs in the rain-reduced match of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) Season 10 played at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Sunday and qualified for the tournament's playoffs.

The defeat marked a new low for Peshawar Zalmi as they failed to qualify for the PSL playoffs for the first time in the marquee league's history. Chasing a daunting 150-run target in 13 overs, Zalmi could only manage 123 for the loss of eight wickets.

Lower-order batter Daniel Sams remained the top-scorer for Zalmi with an unbeaten 26, followed by Ahmed Daniyal (24), Abdul Samad (17) and Babar Azam (16), while the rest of their batters failed to amass double figures. Debutant Mirza was the standout bowler for the Qalandars, picking up four wickets for 31 runs in his three overs. Skipper Shaheen Shah Afridi bagged two wickets, while Sikandar Raza and Harris Rauf chipped in with one scalp apiece. Put into bat in the match, reduced to 13 overs per side, the Qalandars accumulated 149/8.

Sidra, Fatima inspire Stars and Conquerors to key wins in National Women's T20

TIMES REPORT



LAHORE: Skippers Sidra Amin and Fatima Sana led from the front as Stars and Conquerors recorded crucial victories in the eighth round of the National Women's T20 Tournament 2024-25 at the National Bank Stadium, tightening the points race with two games remaining.

In the afternoon clash, Sidra Amin struck an unbeaten 70 off 50 balls, steering Stars to a commanding seven-wicket win over Invincibles. Chasing 141, Stars reached the target in 18.4 overs, with Sidra anchoring the innings and sharing an unbeaten 84-run fourth-wicket partnership with Sidra Nawaz (24*). The chase was set up by a brisk start from Sana Urooj, who scored 21 off 16 balls. Sidra's fluent knock, laced with 10 boundaries, also propelled her to the top of the tournament's run charts with 320 runs. Earlier, Invincibles appeared in control after a 115-run opening stand between skipper Muneeba Ali (52 off 37) and Ayesha Zafar (61 off 50). However, a dramatic collapse saw them slump to 140-6, with no other batter reaching double digits. Aleesa Mukhtiar (3-23) and Waheeda Akhtar (2-20) led Stars' fightback with the ball. Despite Fatima Malik's impressive spell of 3-20 for Invincibles, it wasn't enough to prevent their third defeat. In the morning match, Fatima Sana powered Conquerors to a 31-run win over Challengers, keeping her side in the hunt for semi-final qualification.

Hasan's top notch innings help Gladiators to down Sultans

ARIF MEHMOOD KHAN

ISLAMABAD: Hasan Nawaz's brilliant batting steered Quetta Gladiators to a thrilling two-wicket win over Multan Sultans in their last league-stage game as they chased down the 386-run target on the last ball of the 20th over at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Gladiators, who now sit atop the points table with seven wins and 15 points in 10 matches, handed Sultans their ninth loss of the HBL PSL X.

With Quetta requiring 11 runs off the last over, Hasan, who bludgeoned six sixes and two fours in the outing, only managed two runs off the first three balls against Mohammad Hasnain before launching him for six straight down the ground on the fourth ball. The penultimate ball saw Abrar Ahmed run out at non-striker's end while coming for the second run leaving Gladiators requiring two of the last ball, which was dismissed for another six over long on as Hasan finished with a 38-ball 67 not out. At the start of the chase, Khawaja Muhammad Nafay (51, 26b, 5x4s, 4x6s) and Saud Shakeel (18, 24b, 2x4s) provided their team a strong start with a 77-run opening stand in 7.8 overs, which also included 60 off the Powerplay. Sultans landed consecutive blows in 8th, 9th and 10th overs to leave Gladiators 87-3 before



Hasan partnered with Dinesh Chandimal (17, 10b, 2x4s, 1x6) for a 29-run stand as the latter fell prey to Ubaid Shah in the 13th over. Danish Aziz departed for a five-ball duck in the subsequent over with scorecard reading 123-5. Hasan, who has 317 runs to his name in 10 games, and Faheem Ashraf (16, 9b, 1x4, 1x6) then wrestled back as they collected 95 runs off 20 balls for the sixth wicket including consoling Dilshan Madushanka's 15th over for 16 runs. Gladiators required 46 runs off the last five overs with five wickets in hand, which they successfully notched with Hasan and Dinesh Chandimal (17, 10b, 2x4s, 1x6) for a 29-run stand end. For Sultans Shahid Afridi remained unbeaten for a 16-ball 21 hitting one four and a six after walking in to bat at 120-4, it was No.8 batter Shahid Usman Tariq, who finished with figures of 4-0-32-3, dismissed the Jahanzaib and Yasir in the 7th and 9th overs, respectively as Sultans reached the halfway mark with 82 runs on the board. No.4 batter Tayyab Tahir (36, 24b, 2x4s, 3x6s) and another HBL PSL debutant Humayun Altaf (16, 13b, 2x4s) stitched a quick-fire 26-ball 42-run stand to provide the innings impetus in the middle overs. While, Muhammad Amir Barki remained unbeaten for a 16-ball 21 hitting one four and a six after walking in to bat at 120-4, it was No.8 batter Shahid Usman Tariq, who finished with figures of 4-0-32-3, dismissed the Jahanzaib and Yasir in the 7th and 9th

PSB honours medal-winning athletes with cash awards worth Rs 20.75m

RIZWAN HADER



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) organized a cash award ceremony to honour the country's medal-winning athletes and coaches, in recognition of their outstanding performances at international competitions. The athletes and coaches received cash awards during the ceremony held at a local hotel. Adviser to the Prime Minister Rana Sanaullah was the chief guest, while Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) Secretary Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani, PSB Director General Muhammad Yasir Pirzada, Pakistan Squash Federation General Secretary Air Commodore (R) Amir Nawaz, Pakistan Taekwondo Federation President Col (R) Raja Waseem Ahmed and other officials also attended the event. Speaking on the occasion, Rana Sanaullah announced that the government had increased cash prizes for athletes who bring honour to the country at the international level. He said the initiative aimed to encourage talented youth to excel in sports and represent Pakistan with pride. As part of this initiative,

Three-day archery training camp concluded at Quetta



INAYAT ACHAKZAI

QUETTA: Three day archery training camp set up under the auspices of Balochistan Archery Association aimed at training the students of different educational institutions of district Quetta. Students from different educational institutions of the town, including Government Special High School Quetta, Government Technical Model High School Quetta, Government High School Hazara Society, Tameer-e-Nau Public High School Quetta, Government High School Shafique Ahmed Khan, Government High School Prince Road, The Pioneers High School Marriabad Quetta, Government High School Quetta, Government High School Sardar Ishaq Khan, Government High School Hazara Society, Government Central High School, Government High School Quaidabad, Government High School Pushtunabad and students from other educational institutions of the provincial capital got training of archery. General Secretary Balochistan Archery Association, Faizullah,

First in Pakistan, Sirbaz Khan scales all 8,000m peaks without supplemental oxygen

SAMRA ATHAR

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani mountaineer Sirbaz Khan has become the first and only person from the country to summit all 14 of the world's 8,000-metre peaks without using supplemental oxygen, completing the historic feat on Sunday by reaching the top of Kangchenjunga.

Khan, a resident of Hunza valley, summited the 8,586m peak at 11:50am local time, marking the culmination of a years-long quest. While he had previously climbed all 14 of the "eight-thousanders," he had used bottled oxygen on two of those earlier ascents near the summit.

To achieve the no-oxygen distinction, he returned this season to climb Annapurna in April and Kangchenjunga in May, both without artificial oxygen support. "Even though I had summited all 14 8000m peaks in the world, there was still something missing," Sirbaz had said when he arrived at Annapurna earlier. "When I first announced my project after summiting Nanga Parbat in 2017, my aim was simple: 14 8000m summits without using O₂, and that's why I returned."

Khan is among an elite group of around 70 climbers worldwide who have summited all 14 peaks above 8,000m. Less than 25 have done so entirely without supplemental oxygen, a feat that demands extreme endurance in the oxygen-deprived "death zone" above 8,000m.

His achievement comes in less than a year after he initially completed all 14 peaks, a

milestone that had already cemented his place as one of Pakistan's greatest high-altitude climbers. However, Khan sought to push further by re-climbing the two peaks where he had previously relied on oxygen.

Khan began his journey in 2017 when he successfully summited Nanga Parbat, a notoriously dangerous 8,126m peak. This marked the start of his journey to scale all of the world's highest mountains.

Later, he continued to conquer some of the most challenging peaks, including K2 in July 2018 and Lhotse in May 2019, where he became the first Pakistani to summit the 8,516m peak.



In July 2019, Khan added Broad Peak to his list of accomplishments, reaching its 8,051m summit without the use of supplementary oxygen, a feat that would become a hallmark of his climbs. Later that same year, in September, he scaled Manaslu in Nepal, becoming only the second Pakistani to reach its 8,163m summit.

Khan's determination was unwavering, and in April 2021, he became the first Pakistani to summit Annapurna, one of the deadliest mountains in the world. The following month, he successfully summited Mount Everest, the highest peak on the planet, standing at 8,849m.

In July 2021, Khan led an all-Pakistani team to the summit of Gasherbrum II, standing at 8,035m, further cementing his reputation as a leader in high-altitude mountaineering. Just a few months later, in October 2021, he became the first Pakistani to summit Dhaulagiri, an 8,167m peak. Khan continued to break barriers in 2022, summiting Kangchenjunga in May and Makalu later that month, becoming the first Pakistani to conquer both of these formidable mountains. In August of the same year, he led another successful expedition to Gasherbrum I, marking his 12th summit of an 8,000m peak. In October 2023, Khan added Cho Oyu to his list of conquests, becoming the first Pakistani to summit the 8,188m peak. And, with his successful ascent of Shishapangma on October 4, 2024, he became the first Pakistani to conquer all 14 of the world's highest peaks.



Daily 2200 person died due to NCDs during session hosted by PANAHA

PEAK POINT
MURREE: Pakistan is grappling with a national health emergency, as non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, cardiovascular conditions, obesity, and chronic liver and kidney diseases become increasingly prevalent. The country now ranks first globally in diabetes prevalence, with 31.4% of adults aged 20-79 living with the disease. This is more than a public health issue—it is a national emergency. Over 230,000 deaths annually are linked to diabetes-related complications, and more than nine million individuals remain undiagnosed. With a health system spending only \$79 per capita, Pakistan is severely under-resourced



to address this escalating crisis. A major contributor to the rise in NCDs is the consumption of ultra-processed products. These items are aggressively marketed, highly palatable, and easily accessible—yet offer little to no nutritional value. Their overconsumption is directly linked to the surge in chronic health conditions. These alarming statistics were

shared during a media session organized by the Pakistan National Heart Association in Murree. Health and policy experts addressed the media, urging them to raise their voices in support of this critical national issue. It was disclosed that the Ministry of Health has formally submitted proposals to the Ministry of Finance and the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to increase the Federal Excise Duty (FED) on ultra-processed products—particularly those high in sugar, salt, and unhealthy fats—as part of the upcoming Finance Bill 2025-26. In parallel, the Ministry has proposed the mandatory implementation of front-of-pack warning labels (FOPWL) on these products.

REPORT : WAJIHA TAMSEEL

On Friday, 16 May 2025, the day began with a cannon salute by the Pakistan Army in every city of Pakistan. The day was observed to pay homage to the Pakistan Army, Pakistan Air Force, Pakistan Navy and salute the innocent martyrs who laid down their lives during the India-Pakistan War 1947-48. Youm e Tashkur was celebrated in every city of Pakistan, including the Pakistan Army.

The event began at the Islamabad Monument, the federal capital of Pakistan, where members of the Pakistan Armed Forces, government delegations, artists, sportspersons and other stakeholders participated. The ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran. During the ceremony, Pakistani singers made the atmosphere cheerful with warm melodies, at the end of the ceremony, Prime Minister Shabbaz Sharif informed the enemy



with his speech and praised the Pakistan Army for the hard work done during the war. During the ceremony, the whole of Islamabad was filled with Pakistan Air Force fighter jets and the sky was lit up, the whole of Islamabad saw a spectacular display of fly-past by Pakistan Air Force which was visible.

Opinion & Editorial

The True Face of Terrorism

Amina Abdul sattu
Almost 1,400 years ago, when the Prophet Muhammad (Saw) began spreading Islam's message of peace and harmony, he faced brutal resistance from those who opposed him. Yet, despite the persecution, our Prophet chose not to retaliate, demonstrating the true spirit of forgiveness and compassion that Islam embodies. Before Islam, the world was plagued by

injustice and brutality. However, with the advent of Islam, people learned the value of forgiveness and mercy. Throughout history, we've witnessed countless examples of Muslims being attacked and persecuted by Jews, Hindus, and others without provocation, yet our heroes never sought revenge. Instead, they chose to forgive and move forward. One remarkable example is the story of Hazrat Ali

(R.A.), who, during a battle, was about to strike a Hindu warrior when the latter attacked him. Despite being in a position to defend himself, Hazrat Ali (R.A.) chose not to retaliate, demonstrating his unwavering commitment to forgiveness and mercy. The Quran explicitly condemns anger, cruelty, and injustice, declaring them haram (forbidden). Islam teaches us to be kind and compassionate not only towards human- ity but also towards animals. It's clear that Islam has no connection with terrorism. Even in the face of extreme adversity, Muslims have consistently demonstrated remarkable calmness and resilience. When a slave murdered Hazrat Umar (R.A.), the latter's response was a testament to his unwavering commitment to peace and forgiveness. History bears

witness that Islam is a peaceful religion, and brutality has always been perpetrated by those who do not follow its teachings. The land of Israel is stained with the blood of innocent children, when Paroah destroyed to mothers 's wombs because they felt them threatened for their throne and the world also has witnessed the atrocities committed by Israelis against Palestinians. A world 's wealthy Namrud who claim that he is a God and super power who has set a fire for Muslim hero Hazrat Ibrahim A.S The Holocaust, perpetrated by the Nazis, was a horrific example of brutality and genocide. Yet, it's essential to acknowledge that the mastermind behind this atrocity was not a Muslim, but a non-believer. Today, Muslims worldwide face numerous challenges, from discrimination and racial segregation to persecution and violence. From Trump to Netanyahu and Modi, leaders have consistently demonstrated anti-Muslim biases. Kashmiri Muslims are being massacred, Gaza Muslims are starving, and Syrian Muslims are being plundered. Afghans are facing a challenge as

Pakistanis are fighting against oppression, and the world's powerful nations are dominating and exploiting Muslim-majority countries. It's time to recognize that terrorism is not inherent to Islam. Instead, it's a product of extremism and hatred, often fueled by political and economic interests. Let's work together to promote peaceful change for all.

Operation Bunyan Al Marsoos- Reasons Lessons & Conclusions

Dr Naazir Mahmood
Pakistan is a peace-loving nation that respects the sovereignty of other countries and refrains from interfering in their internal affairs. Unfortunately, Pakistan has long been a victim of terrorism and continues to make significant sacrifices in its fight against this global menace. There is credible evidence pointing to Indian involvement in supporting terrorist activities within Pakistan, particularly through groups like the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA). The arrest and confession of India's spy Kulkhushan Yadav stand as a testament to India's role in destabilizing Pakistan. Despite these serious violations, Pakistan has consistently chosen the path of dialogue and peace. Meanwhile, the human rights situation in India, especially regarding minorities, has drawn global concern. The safety, dignity, and rights of minorities are frequently at risk, and incidents of violence and extremism in India often stem from deep-rooted internal issues. Rather than addressing these challenges domestically, India has repeatedly attempted to externalize blame—often pointing fingers at Pakistan without credible evidence. Examples include the Pulwama attack and the Samjhauta Express tragedy,

of Pakistan once again advocated for peace and calm. However, as a sovereign nation, Pakistan reserves the right to defend its people and territory. The response in the form of Operation Bunyan Al-Marsoos was a defensive measure taken in response to Indian aggression, aimed at protecting innocent civilians. It sent a clear message: while Pakistan is committed to peace, any act of aggression will be met with a firm and proportionate response. Pakistan's Armed Forces are professional and dedicated to defending the country against all threats, internal or external. The state maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and remains committed to regional peace and stability. Both India and Pakistan, as nuclear-armed neighbors, bear a responsibility toward the safety and future of over 1.6 billion people. There is no room for war. What is needed now is mutual maturity, dialogue, and a commitment to resolving disputes peacefully in accordance with international law. During the recent conflict with India, Pakistanis viewed the military's performance with a sense of pride and reassurance. In what has been described as one of the largest air battles of the 21st century, involving 12 aircraft equipped with beyond-visual-range (BVR) technology, Pakistan claimed a

decisive advantage. While India reportedly lost five fighter jets—including three Rafale aircraft—Pakistan emerged without confirmed losses, neutralizing all 77 hostile drones using a mix of soft-kill (electronic disruption) and hard-kill (kinetic) methods. In addition, Pakistani air defenses intercepted multiple ballistic missiles, including the technologically advanced BrahMos. Despite its hypersonic speed and precision, the majority of BrahMos missiles were either destroyed or deflected, marking a significant milestone for Pakistan's growing air defense capability. India launched strikes on nine locations, whereas Pakistan responded by targeting 26 strategic sites across India, demonstrating both technological prowess and operational confidence. This conflict reinforced the need for Pakistan to continue strengthening its defense and operational capabilities. Rather than limiting itself to a proportional response, Pakistan elevated its strategic response, executing both defensive and offensive operations with calculated precision. The combined strength of Pakistan's Army, Air Force, and Navy was on full display. Analysts noted that had Pakistan not

demonstrated such military competence and restraint, the conflict might have escalated uncontrollably. The show of force played a key role in preventing immediate escalation, making clear that a full-scale India-Pakistan war was not only unsustainable but unacceptable. In addition, the IMF did not halt its financial tranche, reflecting confidence in Pakistan's economic trajectory. While global powers called for restraint, Pakistan gained backing from key allies, notably China and Türkiye. Conversely, Israel—widely viewed as ideologically hostile—sided with India and provided advanced drones and military support. However, the broader Western response leaned toward neutrality, undercutting India's perception of itself as the West's favored strategic partner. Domestically, the conflict exposed deep-seated issues within India, particularly its treatment of minorities, including Muslims and Sikhs. This drew attention from international media and rights organizations. In contrast, Pakistan saw a unifying effect internally, as political divisions narrowed and national solidarity strengthened. Pakistan's narrative—based on docu-

mented evidence—gained credibility, while India's claims were widely criticized as unsubstantiated or fabricated. Importantly, the Indian government used the moment to shed longstanding allegations of being a state sponsor of terrorism. Instead, India came under scrutiny for supporting destabilizing elements in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and other regions. This marked a significant reversal in international perception. Regionally, the conflict reset geopolitical dynamics. India's long-standing effort to "de-ghettone" itself across the Kashmir region, through global diplomacy, was effectively undone. The Kashmir issue, long pushed to the margins, re-entered international discourse with renewed urgency. Indian deterrence suffered a visible and public collapse, as Pakistan effectively countered India's strikes and asserted strategic dominance. The Pakistan Air Force's post-strike briefing became a defining moment. Unlike rhetorical claims, it presented verifiable data—radar logs, satellite images, jamming signals, and missile trajectory spoofing. India's prized S-400 air defense system at Adampur was mapped and struck, while Rafale jets were reportedly grounded and unable to engage effectively in untested airspace. India's command-and-control satellite

Pakistan aims for economic glory after military victory over India: Attaullah Tarar



ARSHAD MALIK

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar credited the Pakistan armed forces for their bravery in a historic military victory over India and urged the nation to now focus on defeating the enemy on the economic front through collective efforts.

Speaking at a large public gathering in his electoral constituency on Sunday, Tarar congratulated the people of Pakistan, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Chief of Army Staff General Hafiz Syed Asim Munir, and the armed forces for their triumph.

He paid tribute to the

Army, Air Force, and Navy, emphasizing their globally recognized valor. He recounted that following India's cowardly attack, "Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif authorized a decisive military response, resulting in a humiliating defeat for India on the battlefield. Concurrently, Pakistan's political leadership outmaneuvered India diplomatically, exposing their aggression on international forums," he added.

Highlighting historical parallels, he recalled Pakistan's six nuclear tests on May 28, 1998, under Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, which established the nation's strength. Similarly, on May 10, 2025, Pakistani forces shot down six Indian warplanes, avenging the 1971 war and reaffirming their superiority. Our civil and military leadership upheld the nation's honor, defeating India on all fronts, he maintained.

The minister praised the Pakistani media and social media activists for countering Indian propaganda and exposing their falsehoods. He also paid homage to the civilian and military mar-

tyrs, noting the sacrifices of brave mothers who send their sons to defend the nation. "No force can defeat a nation ready to sacrifice with shrouds on their heads," Tarar said, drawing inspiration from the Battle of Badr, where divine support led to victory despite numerical odds.

He criticized India's rejection of a fair investigation into the Pahalgaon incident, which led to their nighttime attack on Pakistani civilians. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, he noted, effectively highlighted India's aggression globally, contributing to their diplomatic isolation. The minister also lauded Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) workers for their role in shaping the narrative on social media, noting that India's public is now questioning their government and media amid national mourning. Reiterating Pakistan's commitment to peace, the minister warned that India mistook this for weakness, a miscalculation corrected by the armed forces' decisive response.

Several held in India over alleged links to Pakistan, remarks on military officers

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Indian police have arrested multiple people in Haryana, Punjab and Delhi — including a travel vlogger and a university professor — over their alleged connections to Pakistan and comments pertaining to the recent escalation between the two countries, Indian media reported on Sunday. The development follows a military confrontation between India and Pakistan over New Delhi's allegations against Islamabad about a deadly attack in occupied Kashmir's Pahalgaon. On the night of May 6-7, New Delhi launched a series of air strikes in Pakistan, resulting in civilian casualties. Islamabad responded by downing five Indian jets. After intercepting drones sent by India and tit-for-tat strikes on each other's airbases.

2 dead, 11 injured as blast rips through market in Balochistan's Qila Abdullah; officials

PEAK POINT

QUETTA: Two people were killed and at least 11 were injured after an explosion ripped through a market in Balochistan's Qila Abdullah district on Sunday evening, officials said.

According to the initial investigation, the explosives were planted in a vehicle, DC Khan said, adding that the bomb disposal squad and law enforcement officials were summoned and an investigation was launched.

"An emergency was declared at the District Health Headquarters in Qila Abdullah, where medical assistance was being provided to the injured," he said.

Qila Abdullah Levies Risaldar Gulab Khan said, "The blast took place near the Abdul Jabbar Market in the Gulistan area of Qila Abdullah district, resulting in the death of two people and injuries to 11 others.

"After the explosion, Levies personnel and people present at



The scene immediately rescued the injured, who were then moved to the District Health Headquarters Chaman for treatment.

"According to the official, officers began an investigation after collecting evidence from the scene.

Condemning the blast, Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti said he shared the grief of the families of the deceased.

"The war against terrorism is undoubtedly a war of national security," CM Bugti said in a statement, adding war against terrorism will continue until the last terrorist is eliminated.

Kiani inaugurates new stop of Awam Express train at Sohawa station

MOHSIN ALI

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Railways Bilal Azhar Kayani on Sunday officially inaugurated the new stop of Awam Express at the Sohawa Railway Station to facilitate the locals.

With this addition, the Awam Express running from Karachi to Peshawar will now make regular stops at Sohawa Station in both directions.

Speaking at the inauguration, Bilal Kayani said the new stop as a "gift for the people of Sohawa," expressing joy at the revival of activity at the station after a long gap of 17 years.

He extended his congratulations to the local population on the restoration of railway services.

Following the inauguration at Sohawa, the minister proceeded to Jhelum Railway

Station, where he inaugurated a new stop for the Rehman Baba Express, another train running on the Karachi-Peshawar route.

This train will now also halt at Jhelum Station in both directions, providing improved connectivity for the region.

Kiani inaugurates new stop of Awam Express train at Sohawa station

The local residents warmly welcomed the minister at both stations and thanked him for the reinstatement of the train stops.

Talking to media at Jhelum Station, Bilal Kayani reaffirmed the government's commitment to upgrading railway facilities across smaller cities, including Jhelum and Sohawa.

On this occasion, he directed the Divisional Superintendent, Rawalpindi to ensure that no effort is spared in facilitating passengers at the newly reinstated stops.

Historic Rose Cinema Demolished in Rawalpindi

NADEEM TANOLI

RAWALPINDI: The iconic Rose Cinema, situated in the heart of Raja Bazaar, Rawalpindi, has been demolished following a protracted legal battle and subsequent court directives. The demolition, executed by the Rawalpindi Municipal Corporation (RMC), marks the end of an era for a venue that once stood as a cultural landmark in the city. The Lahore High Court's Rawalpindi Bench recently concluded all pending legal cases concerning the property, forwarding two writ petitions to the

Pakistan gives befitting response to Indian aggression: Amir Muqam

PEAK POINT

KOHAT: Federal Minister for States and Frontier Regions, Gilgit-Baltistan, and Kashmir Affairs, Engr Amir Muqam, on Sunday here declared that Pakistan has given a "befitting response" to India's recent unprovoked aggression, effectively thwarting the "nefarious designs of the enemy."

Speaking at a large public gathering at Kulachi in Kohat, the minister lauded the professional competence and battlefield readiness of Pakistan's armed forces that shutdown six IAF jets and many drones.

"Our military has once again demonstrated its superiority and resilience, shaking the very foundations of the Indian military establishment," he said.

Engr Muqam noted that



Pakistan had initially shown maximum restraint in the face of Indian unprovoked aggression but was compelled to respond in self-defense. "Our response was precise, decisive, and necessary. The enemy has suffered significant losses," he added.

Reiterating Pakistan's commitment to regional peace and stability, the minister emphasized that the country's desire for peaceful coexistence should never be mistaken for weakness.



ISLAMABAD: Bilal Azhar Kayani, Minister of State for Railways, inaugurating the stop of Rehman Baba Express at Jhelum Railways Station.

Big Crackdown Launched against Drug Dealers

UMER DIAZ KHAN

BANNU: Big Crackdown Launched Against Drug Dealers On the special directives of Inspector General of Police Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mr. Zulfikar Hameed, a comprehensive and effective campaign has been launched against drug dealers across the province, including in Bannu district. This campaign is being led under the supervision of DIG Bannu Region Mr. Sajjad Khan and DPO Bannu Saleem Abbas Kalachi, who have issued clear instructions to concerned police officers to take indiscriminate action against drug peddlers. On the very first day of this special campaign, launched on May 17, 2025, Bannu district police achieved significant success. During coordinated operations carried out in various police stations, the following actions were taken against drug

dealers: A total of 16 FIRs were registered. Out of 17 accused, 15 were arrested. A large quantity of drugs was recovered, detailed as follows: Hashish 12,585 grams (Crystal Meth); 2,184 grams Heroin; 510 grams DIG Sajjad Khan and DPO Saleem Abbas Kalachi, in their separate statements, congratulated the police teams on this success and reiterated their commitment that individuals involved in the vile trade of drugs will not be spared under any circumstances. They emphasized that no negligence or leniency will be tolerated in the mission to make Bannu drug-free and safe. The general public is also urged to immediately report any suspicious individuals or activities to the concerned police station or control room so that, together, we can cleanse our society of the scourge of drugs.

Saudi airline resumes Hajj flights with Iran after a decade

PEAK POINT

SAUDI ARABIA: In a sign of improving relations between Riyadh and Tehran, a Saudi airline has resumed direct flight from Iran for Hajj pilgrims after a decade.

"Flynas resumed Iranian pilgrims flights from Imam Khomeini (airport) in Tehran on Saturday," a Saudi civil aviation authority official told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official said flights would also be added from Mashhad in Iran, allowing more than 35,000 pilgrims to travel to Saudi Arabia on the airline.

The official stressed that the flights were not com-



mercial and were only for the Hajj pilgrimage.

The Hajj is due to begin during the first week of June, and pilgrims from across the globe have already begun pouring into Saudi Arabia.

Iran and Saudi Arabia resumed relations in March 2023 under a surprise China-brokered deal after a seven-year rupture.

Saudi Arabia severed relations with Iran in 2016 after its embassy in Tehran and consulate in the

northwestern city of Mashhad were attacked during protests after Saudi Arabia executed cleric Nimr al-Nimr.

No Iranian pilgrims were allowed into Saudi Arabia in 2016, the year that ties were ruptured, as the two sides were unable to organise a protocol for them to attend.

Iranians were later allowed to join the pilgrimage but were only allowed to travel to Saudi Arabia on Iranian chartered flights during the Hajj season.

But since the March 2023 Iranian-Saudi rapprochement, the regional powers have intensified their contacts.