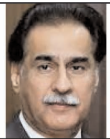




Islam promotes peace, tolerance, human dignity: Gilani



Marka-e-Haq elevates Pakistan's global standing, exposes false Indian narrative: Ayaz



Simly Dam Expansion Project: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi Orders Feasibility Plan

Founded By:
(Late) Rehmat Khan

ABC CERTIFIED

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

Executive Group Editor
Arif Mehmood Khan



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Pakistan earns global trust through peace efforts: PM Shehbaz Sharif

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said Pakistan had emerged as a key force for peace and stability in the region, crediting the country's diplomatic efforts for facilitating unprecedented talks between Iran and the United States.

Addressing the 6th International Paigham-e-Islam Conference here, the prime minister said the gathering at the conference reflected the unity of the Muslim Ummah and acknowledged the valuable contributions of religious scholars in promoting harmony.

He revealed that Pakistan successfully persuaded the leadership of Iran and the United States to engage in dialogue for the first time since 1979, with talks held in

Islamabad on April 11 and 12. He expressed gratitude to both countries for accepting Pakistan's invitation and agreeing to a ceasefire. "This reflects the trust the international community places in Pakistan," he said, adding that the country had delivered a significant service aimed at ensuring peace and stability in the region.

Advisor to the President of Palestine on Religious Affairs and Islamic Relations and the Supreme Judge (Qazi ul Qaza) of Palestine Dr. Mahmoud Al-Habbash, Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and Palestine Sheikh Muhammad Ahmad Hussein, Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmon Sardar Muhammad Yousaf, and Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan Nawaf.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses 6th International Paigham e Islam Conference held.

Pakistan's response to any future miscalculation will be more intense, warns Asif in Marka-i-Haq message

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: In a televised message marking Marka-i-Haq, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif on Wednesday warned that Pakistan's reaction to any miscalculation in the future would be "more intense and decisive".

Last year's military conflict with India, starting from the April 22 Pahalagam attack to the end of Pakistan's Operation Banyanum Marsoos, with a ceasefire ending a military escalation between the two countries on May 10, has been called "Marka-i-Haq" (Battle of Truth) by the state. In his message, Asif said Marka-i-Haq was not just a "memorable episode for Pakistan, but a line that we have drawn forever". Anyone on the other side of this line should understand that Pakistan exercised tolerance and restraint during the 2025 episode, he said, warning that in case of an "incorrect assessment or miscalculation" in the future, the response would be "more intense and decisive". He added that Pakistan did not want any fighting in 2025, and it desired the same today. "But there should not be any doubt; Pakistan does not only respond, but it also determines the correct course of consequences.

PM, CDF offer funeral of Lt Col Khalid Hussain Shaheed, reaffirm resolve against terrorism

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday offered the funeral prayer, along with Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, federal ministers for interior and information, senior serving and retired military officials, as well as a large number of civilians and relatives of the martyr.

The funeral prayer of Lieutenant Colonel Khalid Hussain, who embraced martyrdom during an intelligence-based operation in Balochistan, was offered here at Chaklala Garrison.

Paying tribute, the prime minister lauded the fallen officer's bravery, devotion, and unwavering commitment to defending the country.

He reiterated that Pakistan's armed forces, backed by the nation, remain determined to eliminate the threat of terrorism and its facilitators. "The sacrifices of our martyrs strengthen the nation's resolve and reflect Pakistan's firm commitment to protecting its peace, stability, and sovereignty," he said.

Iran says reviewing US proposals, Trump threatens 'higher level' bombing in Tehran if deal not agreed

MAHPARA ZAMAN

NEW YORK: Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei has confirmed that US-Iran talks have entered a sensitive phase. In an interview to American TV channel, Esmail Baghaei said that



Theran was reviewing Washington's 14-point peace proposals. Earlier, US news outlet Axios reported Wednesday, citing two US officials that Washington believes it is close to reaching an agreement with Iran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and end the war. US President Donald Trump threatened Wednesday to restart bombing on Iran if it does not agree to a deal to end the war. "If they don't agree, the bombing starts, and it will be, sadly, at a much higher level and intensity than it was before," Trump said in a social media post. According to Axios, the two sides are close to agreeing on a "one-page memorandum of understanding to end the war and set a framework for more detailed nuclear negotiations." It said the deal would involve Iran committing to a moratorium on nuclear enrichment and the United States agreeing to release billions of dollars of frozen Iranian funds. Washington is reportedly awaiting a response from Tehran on several key points in the next 48 hours.

4 killed in post-poll unrest in India's West Bengal

PEAK POINT

NEW DEHLE: Four people have been killed in political unrest after Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu-nationalist party celebrated victory in state polls in West Bengal, police and party officials said on Wednesday. Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) swept polls in the key eastern state of more than 100 million people, winning 206 of the 294 assembly seats, according to results announced on Monday, for its first-ever victory in West Bengal, West Bengal had been ruled.

Naval chief stresses perpetual combat readiness in maritime domain



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf has emphasised maintaining perpetual combat readiness against traditional and non-traditional challenges in the maritime domain. The naval chief made the remarks during the Command and Staff Conference of the Pakistan Navy at the Naval Headquarters in

Islamabad, according to a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) on Wednesday. During the conference, Admiral Ashraf, in the backdrop of the ongoing situation in the Middle East, noted that emerging threats in the maritime domain include freedom of navigation, potential disruption to vital Sea Lines of Communication (SLOCs) and a volatile maritime security situation across strategic choke-points. He stressed on acquiring niche and cutting-edge technologies as an absolute strategic necessity for the Pakistan Navy. The naval chief further underscored the PN's pivotal role in ensuring peace, stability and regional maritime security. He highlighted: "PN is providing assurance to the maritime community through its presence in GOO [Gulf of

Oman]." The forum also commemorated the first anniversary of Marka-e-Haq, paying tribute to the sacrifices made during the May 2025 conflict, read the statement.

The naval chief remarked on the historic triumph as an enduring testament to national unity and unwavering resolve to defeat any external aggression with an iron fist.

The forum undertook a comprehensive review of the operational preparedness, ongoing initiatives and upcoming events. "Discussions remained focused on aligning naval priorities with evolving regional maritime security imperatives to chart a clear course for operations preparedness across multiple domains of naval warfare," read the statement.

Pakistan Army cadet shines at Australian Royal Military College: ISPR



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Army cadet Sardar Arsam Abbas has been declared the "overall best foreign military cadet" by Australia's Royal Military College (RMC), the military's media wing said on Wednesday. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), "The Australian RMC, Duntroon has declared Pakistani Army cadet Sardar Arsam Abbas (PMA 152 long course) the "overall best foreign military cadet" on the passing out parade held at RMC Duntroon, Canberra on May 5, 2026". "The award is conferred upon the highest-performing foreign military cadet across all facets of training. This is a testament to the highest standards of professionalism, commitment, and excellence demonstrated by the junior leadership of the Pakistan Army," the statement said.



SPORTS



Pakistan take unbeatable lead after defeating Zimbabwe in 2nd ODI

India opens door to Pakistani athletes for int'l events but no bilateral series



PEAK POINT
KARACHI: Pakistan women produced a dominant all-round performance to defeat Zimbabwe by 206 runs in the second ODI, sealing an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series at Karachi's National Bank Stadium on Wednesday.

Chasing 344, Zimbabwe were bowled out for 137 in 39 overs, courtesy of an exceptional bowling performance from the national team's attack.

Runyaro Pasipanodya top-scored for her side and remained unbeaten with 33 runs from 62 deliveries, striking five fours, while opener Kelis Ndhlovu made 32 off 51 balls, hitting six boundaries. Beloved Biza scored 29 off 51 deliveries, including four boundaries, while Lindokuhle Mabherero added 20 runs as well.

Fatima Sana led the Pakistan bowling attack, finishing with figures of 3/15 in eight overs. Syeda Aroob Shah, Rameen Shamim and Momina Riasat claimed two wickets each, while Diana Baig also chipped in with a wicket.

Batting first, the Women in Green posted a formidable total in their 50 overs, driven by outstanding centuries from openers Sadaf Shamas and Gull Feroza.

The opening pair set the tone from the outset, piling on runs with an aggressive yet controlled approach to propel Pakistan to a massive score.

Both batters crossed the 150-run partnership mark, with Gull Feroza bringing up her maiden ODI century, while Sadaf Shamas also registered a well-crafted ton in the 50-over format.

The 189-run opening stand was eventually broken when Lindokuhle Mabherero dismissed Feroza for a brilliant 100 off 95 deliveries, an innings featuring 13 boundaries. The partnership also marked the second-highest opening stand in Pakistan Women's ODI history.

Shamas continued the momentum, reaching her maiden ODI century before falling shortly after for 101 off 112 balls, striking 10 fours and a six.

Sidra Amin and captain Fatima Sana then stabilised the innings with a composed partnership.

Amin recorded her 15th ODI half-century and remained unbeaten on 59 off 58 deliveries, including six boundaries. Fatima contributed a quick 25 off 13 balls, hitting one four and two sixes, before being dismissed by Nomvelo Sibanda.

PEAK POINT
ISLAMABAD: Pakistani players and teams will be able to participate in multilateral events hosted by India but bilateral events remain off the table, India's sports ministry has said.

India also said the visa process for sports persons and officials will be simplified while office bearers of international sports governing bodies will be granted multi-entry visas. "With regard to international and multilateral events, in India or abroad, we are guided by the practices of international sports bodies and the interest of our own sports persons," the ministry said in a memorandum. "It is also relevant to take into account India's emergence as a credible venue to host international sports events." India is set to host the Commonwealth Games in 2030 while they have also bid for the 2036 Olympics and the 2038 Asian Games in Ahmedabad.

The two countries engaged in a military conflict that nearly snowballed into a full-fledged war last year.

There has been a long freeze in bilateral cricket between the nuclear-armed neighbours, who have not played a full series since 2012-13 and now meet largely at neutral venues.

Rizwan's comment on Kingsmen draws backlash from Pakistani bowler



PEAK POINT
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan leg-spinner Usama Mir, who has played for Lahore Qalandars, has condemned Rizwan's remarks by

Rizwan's remarks came in the aftermath of a difficult campaign for his side, who managed just one win in 10 matches, including a heavy defeat to the Kingsmen in their final league-stage fixture. Speaking during the post-match media conference, Rizwan reflected on his team's inconsistent performances and the overall competitiveness of the tournament.

He emphasised the importance of consistency and momentum in high-pressure matches, while also noting that opposition teams had performed strongly in certain conditions, particularly in Lahore. "The last match they didn't deserve it. This can be my own wrong thinking, I'm sorry for this. This is my own opinion. If they go from here properly, if they out us from here, then they deserve it. The matches that are going on in Lahore, they are doing very well. The rhythm that they are playing, I think it was their luck," Rizwan said.

Sri Lanka confirms participation in proposed Pakistan tri-nation ODI series



PEAK POINT
ISLAMABAD: The Sri Lanka national cricket team has officially confirmed its participation in a proposed tri-nation One Day International Cricket World Cup 2026, carrying the Pakistan Cricket Board later this year.

Sources further suggest that Sri Lanka may extend its tour with additional limited-overs fixtures, including T20 matches, and possibly even Test matches depending on final scheduling agreements.

Cricketers say the proposed tri-series will provide valuable preparation for all teams, especially in subcontinental playing conditions. Pakistan, which has hosted successful tri-nation events in the past, is expected to use the series to strengthen its profile as a reliable host for international cricket.

Pakistani duo stun top-seeded opposition in ITF M-15 doubles clash



PEAK POINT
LAHORE: Pakistani pair of Mikael Ali Baig and Ahmad Nael Qureshi stunned top-seeded player Samir McDonald's Pakistan

ITF Championship Ligniere secured a hard-fought win over Russia's Ivan Tutkin and Makar Krivoshechekov 4-6, 7-5 (13-11). Meanwhile, Kerem Yilmaz and Adam Farag-Cao beat the Pakistani duo's performance and boosted local hopes in the tournament. In other doubles matches, the better of Egor Khotchenkov defeated Pakistan's Shaob 6-4, 7-5. In another fixture, Barkatullah 6-4, 6-3. Stevan Popovic and Carl Holder defeated Italian pair of Matas Xiuyuan Guo and Vasiliauskas and Yousaf Khalil 7-5, 6-3.

Pakistan street child football team reaches Mexico for global tournament

PEAK POINT
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's street child football team has arrived in Mexico to take part in the Street Child Football World Cup 2026, carrying the aspirations of vulnerable children from across the country.

The competition that commenced on May 5 will conclude on May 15. According to details, Pakistan team received a warm welcome at the airport in Mexico by members of the overseas Pakistani community. The team's participation has been facilitated with the support of Muslim Hands, an organization working to uplift disadvantaged children through education, sports and social development initiatives. The event provides an international

platform for street-connected children to showcase their football talent while raising their voices on critical global issues. Officials accompanying the squad expressed confidence in the team's preparation and performance. After undergoing months of intensive training, personal development sessions and team-building exercises, the players are determined to deliver a strong showing in the tournament. "This is not just a competition but an opportunity

to challenge perceptions and inspire hope," a team official said, adding that the players are committed to making the country proud on the global stage. Apart from competing in matches, the team will also participate in cultural exchange programmes and advocacy events focused on child rights. These engagements aim to promote awareness about the challenges faced by street children and emphasize the importance of education.





Poor roads, weak health facilities and NOC delays blocking Chitral tourism, Senate Panel Told

BY ARIF MAHMOOD

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing Committee on Inter Provincial Coordination has expressed serious concern over poor roads, weak health facilities, limited internet access and security related NOC requirements in Chitral, warning that these issues are damaging the area's tourism potential despite its natural beauty and international appeal. Officials informed the committee that Chitral is one of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's most important tourism regions, known for adventure and cultural tourism. They said the area includes major attractions such as Kalash Valley, Shandur

Pass, Chitral Gol National Park, Garam Chashma, Laspur and other valleys. The committee was told that after the 18th Amendment, tourism was devolved to provinces. In 2022, PTDC motels were also transferred to provinces. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa received 19 tourism properties, including five motels in Chitral. These properties are now linked with Green Tourism under SIFC, while the federal government will receive 10 percent profit under the revenue-sharing arrangement. Officials said foreign tourists visiting Chitral increased from around 1,500 in 2022 to nearly 2,700, while



millions of local tourists visit the area every year. They added that digital promotion, brochures, maps, UNESCO supported material and a "responsible tourism" campaign have also been launched. However, Senator Talha Mehmood said promotion alone would not work unless basic problems were fixed. He said tourists need

safe roads, internet, proper hotels, health facilities and emergency support. He pointed out that Chitral's hospitals lack basic facilities, dialysis machines are not functional and in some cases even unavailable. He also criticized the poor condition of roads, saying narrow routes along mountains and rivers create serious risks.

He said travel to Shandur can take 10 to 12 hours, routes remain closed for months and limited flights cannot solve the problem. Senator Aimal Wali Khan supported these concerns and said Chitral and other northern areas have great beauty but lack the basic facilities available in places like Murree, Nathia Gali and Naran-Kaghan. He said tourism cannot grow where local people themselves struggle for health, water, roads and internet. The committee was also told that foreign tourists still need NOCs to visit Chitral due to security concerns, which creates delays and discourages visitors. Chairman

Senator Dilawar Khan directed that a separate meeting be held on Chitral's tourism and development issues. He said all relevant departments, including PTA, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Petroleum, KP Health Department, Ministry of Communications, Civil Aviation Authority, Irrigation Department, NHA and police officials, should be called. The committee said Chitral has the potential to become a major source of tourism income for Pakistan, but only if roads, internet, hospitals, security facilitation and basic services are improved.

136 bullets fired, terror charges removed, christian homes burned: Senate human rights panel sounds alarm

NADEEM TANOLI

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Functional Committee on Human Rights raised serious concerns after learning that a Lahore murder case involving the firing of 136 bullets was treated without Anti Terrorism Act provisions, while separate discussions exposed fears over attacks on minorities, kidnapping cases, and the treatment of Afghan women in Pakistan. The meeting, chaired by Samina Mumtaz Zehri, focused on several major human rights issues that lawmakers

described as deeply worrying for the country. The most shocking discussion centered on the target killing of Ahmed Javed in Lahore. Committee members questioned why Anti Terrorism Act sections were removed from the case despite what they called clear signs of terrorism. Senators noted that firing 136 bullets could not simply be considered a personal dispute. Punjab's Prosecutor General informed the committee that the case was changed according to the complainant's FIR and judicial practice. However, he

added that terrorism related sections could still be included later through a supplementary challan. The committee directed the Inspector General of Police Punjab and the Prosecutor General to submit a detailed report in the next meeting. Members also heard the victim's father and expressed concern over the wider law and order situation in the country. The committee urged the Interior Ministry to take urgent steps to improve public safety and ensure justice. The committee also discussed the Jaranwala incident in which

houses belonging to the Christian community were burned. Senators warned that religious narratives were being misused to settle personal disputes. Chairperson Samina Mumtaz Zehri stressed that society needs reform through education, especially in schools and seminaries, to prevent hatred and violence. A detailed report on the incident was ordered for the next session. Another disturbing case discussed during the meeting involved a kidnapping that later turned into murder. The vic-

tim's body was recovered from Mardan after the abduction case was reported in Islamabad. The chairperson ordered authorities to provide a complete timeline within 48 hours, including details from FIR registration to Safe City tracking and recovery efforts. The committee also reviewed Pakistan's position in the Global Gender Parity Report, where the country ranks 148th. Officials informed lawmakers that recommendations had been made to increase women's representation in the federal

cabinet to at least 10%, while women's participation in civil services has also improved. The issue of Afghan women facing visa revocations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was also raised during the meeting. Aimal Wali Khan said Afghan families should be treated humanely and even suggested giving nationality to Afghans. The committee directed the Interior Ministry to explain the government's policy and ensure that no injustice is done to Afghan women.

Opinion & Editorial

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ISLAMABAD
Arif Mehmood Khan
Group Editor: 0333-5366814
Samra Athar Kakakhel
Resident Editor
Nadim Tanoli
Joint Editor: Mob-0301-777874
Email: editor.peakpoint@gmail.com
www.peakpoint.pk

Hard choices

Khurram Abbas
ONE year has passed since India decided to hold the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in abeyance. Pakistan's National Security Council issued a warning, shortly after the Indian Cabinet Committee on Security's decision, that any attempt to divert water flows will be regarded as an "act of war". A year later, there are no visible signs towards the treaty's restoration, and it remains essentially paralysed.

India has expedited development on a number of controversial hydropower projects by revising completion deadlines and making more rigorous funding arrangements. New Delhi has also approved design modifications in order to improve operational flexibility in managing water flows on several projects. Similarly, India has enhanced diversion measures at the Kishanganga project.

The Indian National Register of Large (Specified) Dams lists 15 large (specified) dams in occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The Kiru, Kwar and Pakal Dul are among the projects that India has expanded on the Chenab tributaries. Additionally, India has upgraded local storage systems and canals while increasing irrigation planning and intra-basin water use. These actions will likely lead to a progressive decrease in downstream water availability and an increase in upstream demand. Since

April 2025, all of New Delhi's initiatives are meant to bring a change from a project-based approach to a water control strategy at the system level. Due to ongoing hydroelectric projects, India's western river storage capacity could increase two to three times, which will greatly enhance its ability to manipulate water flows.

India has expedited development on a number of controversial hydropower projects. The majority of these projects are anticipated to be completed between 2030 and 2032. To counter the Indian decision of suspending the IWT, Islamabad had to make a strategic decision: either persuade New Delhi to change its mind or force it to do so. Islamabad has so far preferred a multi-layered legal and diplomatic approach to apply pressure on India.

First, it has sought to utilise the procedural framework of the treaty by formally raising concerns over irregular water flows and the suspension of data exchange through correspondence between its Indus Waters Commissioner and the latter's Indian counterpart.

Second, Islamabad has continued to advance disputes related to projects such as Ratle and Kishanganga before the Hague-based Permanent Court of Arbitration. Last year in August, the PCA issued a binding award on the interpretation of the IWT. However, New Delhi has

brushed aside the court's decision.

Third, Islamabad has attached hopes to the World Bank for intervention in this issue to ensure that New Delhi restores the treaty.

Pakistan has also explored broader international legal avenues. Islamabad has signalled the possibility of further legal action by framing India's conduct as a violation of international law, particularly the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Diplomatically, Islamabad has raised the issue at the UN Security Council and several other multilateral forums, and characterised India's actions as the "weaponisation of water".

Concurrently, Pakistan has systematically documented violations, including the suspension of hydrological data and irregular flows in the Chenab.

However, at this point, Islamabad needs a reality check. The aforementioned efforts may help establish an evidentiary record for future legal or diplomatic purposes but cannot pressurise New Delhi into reversing its decision on the treaty. The World Bank's president Ajay Banga has already clarified that the bank has no role to play beyond facilitation. After one year, Islamabad needs to reassess its plans and actions with strategic clarity on whether and how to compel or convince India to halt its controversial projects and reinstate the treaty.

Courtesy Dawn

Big business of bad advice

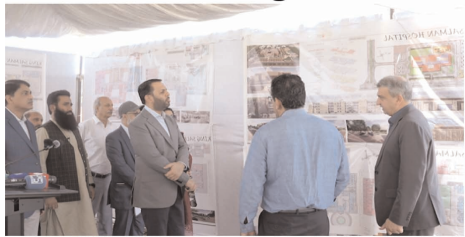
Muhammad Hamid Zaman

IN the last few days in Pakistan, I have been speaking to aspiring students who are eager to pursue higher education abroad. While one can debate whether the pastures are actually greener abroad or not, there is no question that an ever greater number of students are not thrilled about the local offerings. This is particularly true for students who are interested in basic or applied sciences and see limited opportunities in the country beyond one or two institutions. But that is not the only reason for them to seriously consider options outside the country. I heard palpable anxiety about the economic future of the country, amplified by voices in their own networks that is encouraging them to leave. There are, of course, lots of reasons why that chorus of voices is getting louder, and whether everything in that chorus is worth listening to.

The desire to find stability, seek opportunities for intellectual development, follow dreams of spending a life in pursuit of knowledge are natural. I am all too familiar with that desire, for I chose that path and live that life. What is, however, unacceptable is for individuals (and businesses) to exploit these desires and create unethical practices offering dubious advice at an astronomical price. There is now a whole industry of consultants that have seemingly made themselves indispensable. It is now assumed that landing an admission offer is next to impossible without the 'support' of these consultants. The services range from basic conversation to 'building a profile' that would attract the attention of admissions officers. For the right price, some consultants are willing to write students' essays that create an impression that the applicant basically cured cancer, or created a new battery that would solve the country's energy crisis. There have been instances of manipulating transcripts as well. All available in the free market of admission consulting.

Courtesy Tribune

Kamal visits King Salman Hospital Project site, reviews key developments of the long-awaited initiative



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Syed Mustafa Kamal, visited the site of the King Salman Hospital project in Islamabad, where he was briefed on the progress and key developments of the long-awaited initiative. Speaking to the media, the Federal Health Minister announced that the construction of the King Salman

Hospital, which had remained pending for the past nine years, is now set to commence. He noted that the project was originally initiated in 2017, and all outstanding hurdles have now been resolved, said a press release on Wednesday.

The Minister highlighted that the hospital is being established through a generous grant from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He further stated that the construction will be carried

out through an international competitive bidding process to ensure transparency and quality standards. Sharing project details, the Minister informed that, in its initial phase, a 200-bed hospital will be constructed at an estimated cost of PKR 7 billion. He added that the facility will later be expanded to a 600-bed hospital to cater to growing healthcare needs. The hospital will include eight major medical specialties, providing comprehensive healthcare services. Syed Mustafa Kamal emphasized that the residents of Tarlai and surrounding areas will significantly benefit from improved access to quality healthcare services.

He reiterated that the government is taking practical steps to strengthen the health sector across the country. Highlighting recent achievements, the Minister stated that 380 hospital beds have been added in Islamabad over the past year. He added that when including hospitals.

Marka-e-Haq elevates Pakistan's global standing, exposes false Indian narrative: Ayaz

PEAK POINT



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, on Wednesday paid rich tribute to the armed forces of Pakistan, particularly the Pakistan Air Force, saying that "Marka-e-Haq" remained a landmark and illustrious chapter in Pakistan's national and defence history and would always be remembered with pride.

In his special message on the first anniversary of "Marka-e-Haq," he said that Pakistan's timely and effective response to Indian aggression not only established its defensive superiority but also demonstrated its professional excellence on the global stage.

Sadiq emphasized that "Marka-e-Haq" made it clear that Pakistan was a self-respecting, united and resolute nation that did

not compromise on its sovereignty, independence, and national security.

Referring to the events of May 6-7 2025, Ayaz Sadiq said that the enemy targeted civilian areas, including innocent children, in violation of international laws and humanitarian norms.

He said that the armed forces responded swiftly and decisively, thwarting enemy designs and downing multiple Indian aircraft, thereby delivering a strong and effective response to aggression.

Ayaz Sadiq said that the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Islam promotes peace, tolerance, human dignity: Gilani



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani on Wednesday said that Islam is a religion of peace, compassion, tolerance, and human dignity.

Addressing the the Chairman of the Senate commended the organisers for convening a timely dialogue on an issue of global significance. He underscored that Islam, as exemplified by the teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), promotes justice, empathy, and benevolence.

Islam promotes peace, tolerance, human dignity: Gilani

He stressed that in an increasingly divided world, there is an urgent need to project the true message of Islam with clarity and consistency. Highlighting Pakistan's role on the global stage, the Chairman of the Senate reaffirmed that sustainable peace can only be achieved through dialogue and diplomacy rather than confrontation. He added that Pakistan has consistently demonstrated restraint, responsibility, and strategic prudence in promoting de-escalation and constructive engagement.

He paid tribute to the leadership, including President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, and Deputy Prime Minister Senator Ishaq Dar, for their statesmanship in recent regional developments, which contributed to easing tensions and advancing prospects for peace.

Marka-e-Haq redefined Pakistan's military deterrence in 21st-century warfare: Dr. Tariq Fazal

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Marking the first anniversary of Marka-e-Haq, Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Dr Tariq Fazal Chaudhry has hailed Operation Bunyan-un-Marsoos as a defining moment in Pakistan's modern military history, saying that its success not only neutralized imminent threats but also reaffirmed Pakistan's unmatched defensive preparedness.

In an exclusive interview with APP, the minister said the operation demonstrated Pakistan's resolve to safeguard its sovereignty while maintaining a principled commitment to peace. "Pakistan has never desired war, but when challenged, our response is decisive and proportionate," he said, adding that Operation Bunyan-un-Marsoos effectively thwarted hostile designs and exposed the limitations of the adversary's strategy.

Reflecting on the events of May 2025, he said the Pakistan Armed Forces delivered a coordinated and forceful response.

Simly Dam expansion project: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi Orders Feasibility Plan

PEAK POINT



ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi paid a detailed visit to the Simly Dam on Wednesday where he was briefed on the proposed expansion of the reservoir.

Officials informed the minister that Simly Dam currently supplies 40 percent of Islamabad's water, making its expansion vital for meeting the capital's growing demand. After the briefing, Minister Naqvi directed authorities to prepare a practical and comprehensive plan for the dam's expansion at the earliest.

He said that increasing the dam's capacity would ensure an abundant and reliable water supply for residents of the federal capital. Minister Naqvi also inspected the surrounding areas

of the dam and sought a development plan to promote recreational activities in the region. He noted that the areas adjacent to Simly Dam offer significant potential for recreation and tourism, including water sports and other outdoor activities. "Promoting recreational activities will lead to development in the region and create employment opportunities for local residents," he added. He said that citizens would gain access to international-standard recreational facilities.

PSEM Holds 3rd Cabinet Elections Nationwide



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Society of Emergency Medicine successfully conducted its 3rd cabinet elections on May 3, 2026, drawing enthusiastic participation from emergency medicine professionals across the country. The PSEM elections marked another step in strengthening professional engagement and unity within Pakistan's emergency care community.

Ten contestants from various regions contested the election, and more than 200 emergency physicians and trainees took part in the

vote. PSEM representative Mr. Ali Hassan Surhiyo said the electronic voting system provided a fair, transparent and equal opportunity for all eligible voters, underscoring the society's commitment to an accountable electoral process. The newly elected cabinet for PSEM includes Dr. Abdus Salam Khan (President, Shifa International Hospital); Dr. Irfan Habib (Vice President, Child Life Foundation); Dr. Shahana Waheed (General Secretary, Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi); Dr. Noorulain (Social Secretary, Aga Khan); and Dr. Zareen Qasmi (Secretary Media & Publications, Child Life Foundation). Their election reflects a competitive process and growing leadership within the specialty. Outgoing President Dr. Khawaja Junaid Mustafa, Chief Medical Officer at Shifa International Hospital, urged colleagues nationwide to engage actively in the voting process and extended his best wishes to all candidates, commending their dedication to advancing emergency medicine in Pakistan.

TİKA-Led Turkish delegation visits Pakistan to strengthen cooperation on flood management and climate resilience

PEAK POINT



ISLAMABAD: A TİKA-led Turkish technical delegation conducted a working visit to Pakistan to explore opportunities for enhanced cooperation between Türkiye and Pakistan in the fields of flood management, climate resilience, and early warning systems. The visit aimed to facilitate technical consultations, field assessments, and institutional exchanges in order to develop a joint roadmap for future cooperation initiatives between the two countries. The delegation consisted of experts from the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of the Republic of Türkiye, the General

Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (DSİ), the General Directorate for Water Management, and the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA). During the visit, the delegation held a series of high-level meetings and technical consultations with key Pakistani institutions, including the Federal Flood Commission (FFC), Pakistan Meteorological

International virtual moor held on World Press Freedom Day

WAJIHA TAMSEEL MIRZA

ISLAMABAD: Pak Media Journalists Forum International (PMJFI), the largest organization of overseas Pakistani journalists living around the world, organized an online seminar on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day. This International Virtual Conference was attended by local and foreign journalists from all over the world, media professionals, analysts, Ambassadors and experts from different countries, and members and office bearers of Pak Media Journalist Forum. The meeting was presided over by Chairman Ch. Noorul Hassan Gujjar

and President Dr. Abdul Rehman Usama, while the event was moderated by renowned Anchor Person Rameen Mehmood, while the special guests were Chairman Overseas Pakistani Foundation (OPF) Syed Qamar Raza and Chairman Overseas Pakistani Commission Barrister Amjad Malik. The participants said that free journalism plays a key role in promoting democratic values, ensuring transparency and making institutions accountable. He expressed concern that journalists around the world are facing serious issues like censorship, spread of misinformation, professional hazards and restrictions on freedom of



expression. The speakers emphasized that World Press Freedom Day is not just a day, but a reminder of the fundamental right to freedom of expression and the impor-

tant role of journalism in building an informed society. They called unity among journalists and protection of professional ethics very important. The chief guests of

the event, Chairman OPF Syed Qamar Raza and Chairman Overseas Commission Barrister Amjad Malik said that the government of Pakistan is trying to provide incentives to overseas Pakistanis are working as ambassadors of Pakistan around the world and are projecting a positive image of the country. They termed this conference as an important step for the promotion of professional norms and global awareness regarding freedom of press. Senior journalist Muhammad Bilal Abbasi from Pakistan recently participated in a conference. During the conference,

he said that journalists are currently facing very tough trials and numerous challenges. He further stated that the recent PECA law in Pakistan has created many difficulties for journalists. Journalists are being arrested and even abducted, and later presented in the Supreme Court. This International Virtual Conference was attended by His Excellency Dr. Malik Nadeem Abid, UN Human Rights Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Ambassador Mohammad Kamran Akhtar, Pakistani Ambassador to Austria, His Excellency Ambassador Saqlain Syeda, Pakistani Ambassador to Germany.