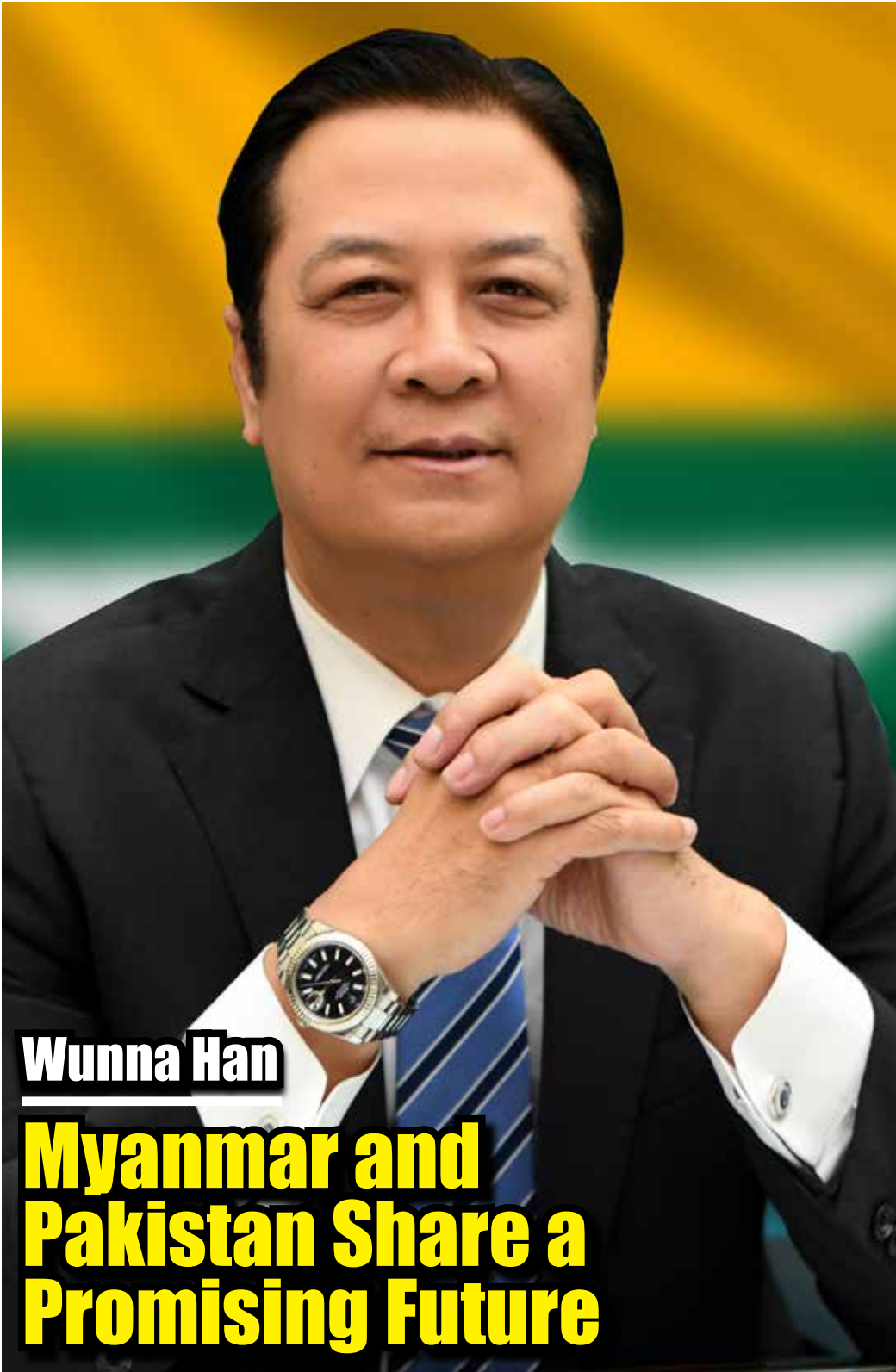


CENTRELINE

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine



Wunna Han

**Myanmar and
Pakistan Share a
Promising Future**



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The politics of long marches and dharnas



THE long march is one of the oldest tools in Pakistani politics. Parties out of power have used it for decades to force the capital's attention, to bargain with governments, and sometimes to test whether the establishment will let a protest become a crisis. What is being discussed now around Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf is not a new method. It is an old method being attempted under conditions that leave it weaker than the marches that came before it.

PTI's posture is cautious as well as combative. Leaders outside jail continue to speak of a march and of demands that have not been met, yet the party line has also left room for a negotiated off-ramp. Inside PTI circles, the argument is that a settlement reached before a confrontation is better than a confrontation that forces a settlement on worse terms. Critics call that flexibility weakness rather than strategy. Supporters call it realism. Either way, a march announced with an exit already half-open does not carry the single-mindedness that street politics usually requires.

The weakness is structural. The figures who still command the party's street loyalty are in prison. Those outside are routinely accused, by their own rank and file as much as by opponents, of playing a double game: hard rhetoric for the workers, quieter channels for the establishment and the government. That split helps explain why recent mobilisation has carried less sting than PTI's numbers on paper would suggest. A movement whose real leadership cannot direct it day to day struggles to hold one line on timing, demands and red lines. Mixed signals from the second tier make allies hesitate and give the government confidence that a march, if it comes, may not hold.

Earlier long marches in Pakistan drew strength from leaders who were present, visible and able to change course in public. This one does not. The gap between the imprisoned leadership and the politicians managing the message is the clearest way in which the current plan falls short. Without that chain of command, crowd size alone cannot supply direction.

The government is not acting from uncomplicated strength either. Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and the Pakistan Peoples Party remain the pillars of the sitting arrangement, but they do not agree on new provinces, an issue that has returned to political argument alongside the protest threat. New federating units would require a constitutional amendment and a two-thirds majority. They would also cut across provincial interests both parties have spent years defending. PML-N's base in Punjab and PPP's hold on Sindh make them natural sceptics of a map redrawn in the name of administrative efficiency or regional grievance. Agreement on that question is not in sight.

The longer case for new provinces is political as much as administrative. For decades, national politics has rotated around two family-centred parties. A larger map, advocates say, would break that duopoly by creating new assemblies, new cabinets and new routes into power. New leadership might emerge, or at least that is the idea. Whether new provinces would dilute dynastic politics, or simply reproduce it on a smaller scale, is untested. The two main governing parties have no incentive to run the experiment if it threatens their strongholds.

Memory of the 2014 sit-in hangs over every side. PTI's dharna that year ran for more than 120 days in an attempt to dislodge then prime minister Nawaz Sharif. It dominated television, froze parts of the capital and raised the temperature with the establishment. It did not remove the government. Sharif stayed in office, and the protest ended without the result its organisers had promised. That history is why talks keep returning as the rational option. A march could still draw crowds and force a choice. It could also dissipate, damaged by division at the top and by a government using time and the diplomatic calendar to prepare.

Arif

Chief Editor's Profile: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti is a career journalist. He started off as District Correspondent of Daily The Muslim in 1988 from Gujrat. Later he moved to Islamabad and joined Pakistan Observer as Sub-Editor / Op-ed Writer, in 1993. In 1995 he again moved to The Muslim as Sub-Editor and he left The Muslim in 1997 to join THE Nation as City Editor and Diplomatic Correspondent, where he remained till 2002. His association with the The News spans over three years from 2002 to 2005 as columnist. In 2005 Mr. Bhatti switched over to Khabrain Group as Columnist / Special Correspondent. In 2010 he was made Resident Editor of The Post, a sister publication of daily Khabrain. In 2010, he launched his own publication Centreline. He has authored two books on European Union. He launched Diplomatic News Agency (DNA) in 2012. In May 2020 he launched Pakistan's First & only Diplomatic Newspaper Daily Islamabad POST.



Wunna Han

Myanmar and Pakistan Share a Promising Future

**Exclusive Interview with H.E. Wunna Han,
Ambassador of Myanmar to Pakistan**

Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

In an exclusive conversation with Daily Islamabad POST, Centreline, and DNA News Agency, H.E. Wunna Han, Ambassador of Myanmar to Pakistan, shared his views on a wide range of issues concerning bilateral relations, regional cooperation, trade opportunities, cultural exchanges, and the evolving geopolitical landscape of South and Southeast Asia. During the interview, Ambassador Wunna Han highlighted the longstanding friendship between Myanmar and Pakistan, emphasizing the importance of strengthening diplomatic ties, enhancing economic cooperation, and expanding people-to-people contacts. He also discussed Myanmar's priorities in foreign policy, the potential for increased collaboration in trade, education, tourism, and investment, as well as the role both countries can play in promoting regional peace and stability. The ambassador offered valuable insights into Myanmar's development agenda, its engagement with international partners, and the prospects for further cooperation with Pakistan in key sectors. Reflecting on mutual interests and shared objectives, he expressed optimism about the future of Myanmar-Pakistan relations and reaffirmed his commitment to fostering closer understanding and collaboration between the two nations.

Following are the details of the exclusive interview:



1: How would you describe the current state of relations between Pakistan and Myanmar?

Answer: Pakistan and Myanmar share a relationship built on historical ties, mutual respect, and consistent multilateral cooperation. Our connection goes back to the very foundation of Pakistan—Myanmar's first envoy, Ambassador U Pe Khin, had the distinct honor of presenting his credentials to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah on August 14, 1947. We also share deep cultural and spiritual links, anchored by Pakistan's preserved Gandhara Buddhist heritage and the historical tomb of Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar in Yangon.

Today, our relations are warm, smooth, and grounded in diplomatic goodwill. While our political understanding is solid, our current priority is to translate these historical and diplomatic foundations into stronger economic, commercial, and educational partnerships for the mutual benefit of both our nations.

2: How can businesses in Pakistan better access the Myanmar market?

Answer: The Myanmar market offers rich opportunities, but taking advantage of them requires proactive engagement and understanding of local demand dynamics. First, Pakistani companies should target primary complementary sectors where Pakistan excels—most notably pharmaceuticals, surgical instruments, textiles, sports goods, and IT services. Myanmar has a strong demand for quality healthcare supplies and consumer goods, which Pakistani manufacturers can fulfill at competitive pricing.

Second, Pakistani business communities should actively participate in international trade exhibitions and

expos held in Yangon. Direct presence and interaction are crucial in Myanmar's business culture.

Finally, establishing joint ventures with local Myanmar partners provides Pakistani exporters with smooth entry into distribution networks and local market insights.

3: What role can chambers of commerce and trade bodies play in enhancing economic ties?

Answer: Chambers of commerce are the primary engine for driving bilateral trade. To bridge the gap between our business sectors, we need structural interaction between the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI),

sions focusing on agriculture, timber, pulses, pharmaceuticals, and textiles.

- **Information Sharing:** Frequently exchanging market data, tariff structures, and regulatory requirements so traders on both sides are well-informed about trade procedures and opportunities.

4: How does Myanmar view Pakistan's relationship with ASEAN as a whole?

Answer: Myanmar values Pakistan's constructive role as a Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN.

Pakistan plays active role in ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) since its joined the Forum as 24th participant on July 2, 2004. ASEAN places immense

“Pakistan and Myanmar share a relationship built on historical ties, mutual respect, and consistent multilateral cooperation. Our connection goes back to the very foundation of Pakistan—Myanmar's first envoy, Ambassador U Pe Khin, had the distinct honor of presenting his credentials to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah on August 14, 1947”

local chambers (such as ICCI, LCCI, and KCCI), and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

Key actions trade bodies should prioritize include:

- **Signing and Operationalizing MoUs:** Formalizing institutional agreements to establish a permanent Joint Business Council (JBC).

- **Organizing Trade Delegations:** Exchanging sector-specific B2B trade mis-

importance on regional peace, economic integration, and multilateral cooperation across Asia.

Pakistan's active engagement with ASEAN member states—both bilaterally and through the ASEAN Committee in Islamabad (ACI)—is highly appreciated. Myanmar has consistently supported deepening Pakistan-ASEAN engagement under Pakistan's "Vision East Asia" initiative. As a Southeast Asian country that borders

with South Asia, Myanmar serves as a natural bridge connecting South Asia to the dynamic ASEAN market. We welcome further cooperation between Pakistan and ASEAN in trade, counter-terrorism, disaster management, climate change resilience, and human resource development.

5: What message would you like to give to Pakistani businesses, students, and policymakers?

Answer:

- To Businesses: Look beyond traditional regional markets and explore Southeast Asia. Myanmar offers tremendous untapped potential in trade and investment. Building strong B2B connections today will yield long-term commercial dividends.

- To Students & Academics: Foster academic ties. We encourage greater educational exchanges, diplomatic training cooperation, and joint academic research. Understanding each other's history, culture, and languages will build a lasting foundation for future diplomacy.

- To Policymakers: Let us maintain open channels of dialogue and continue facilitating trade, religious tourism, and institutional collaboration. By working together in regional and international forums, we can contribute to regional stability and economic prosperity.

6: On a personal note, how has your experience in Pakistan been so far, and what has stood out to you the most?

Answer: My tenure in Pakistan has been deeply rewarding and memorable. What stands out most is the extraordinary warmth, generosity, and hospitality of the Pa-



“ Pakistan’s active engagement with ASEAN member states—both bilaterally and through the ASEAN Committee in Islamabad (ACI)—is highly appreciated ”

kistani people—it makes one feel instantly at home.

Geographically and culturally, Pakistan is a fascinating country. Islamabad is one of the greenest and most picturesque capital cities in the world. I have been struck by Pakistan's rich historical depth, particularly the magnificent Gandhara civilization sites in Taxila and Swat, which hold special spiritual significance for visitors from Myanmar.

The rich culinary tradition, vibrant culture, and resilient spirit of the nation have made my diplomatic mission here both personally fulfilling and professionally productive.

Myanmar-Pakistan Dosti Zindabad!



Ahsan Iqbal says Pakistan values ties with Tajikistan

Ambassador Sharifzoda also addressed the gathering. He thanked the Pakistani side for its participation and spoke of the friendly relations between Tajikistan and Pakistan, underlining the importance of continued high-level contact and practical cooperation

Saifullah Ansar

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal said Pakistan deeply values its ties with Tajikistan and hoped the relationship would grow further in the days ahead, as he joined the Tajik embassy and Pakistani guests in marking the 35th anniversary of the Republic of Tajikistan's Independence Day. Speaking as chief guest, Iqbal conveyed greetings from Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to the leadership of Tajikistan. He described the two countries as close partners linked by shared history, culture and regional interests, and said Islamabad remained committed to expanding cooperation with Dushanbe across political, economic and people-to-people fields.

The reception brought together senior Pakistani figures and members of the diplomatic community. Prime Minister's Coordinator on Tourism Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan and

Senator Talah Mahmood attended alongside Ambassador of Tajikistan Yusuf Sharifzoda and other guests. The minister, the ambassador and other dignitaries later cut a cake to mark the occasion. Ambassador Sharifzoda also addressed the gathering. He thanked the Pakistani side for its participation and spoke of the friendly relations between Tajikistan and Pakistan, underlining the importance of continued high-level contact and practical cooperation. Pakistan and Tajikistan maintain regular diplomatic engagement and cooperate in regional forums. Officials on both sides have repeatedly pointed to trade, connectivity, energy, tourism and cultural exchanges as areas with room to expand. Thursday's event was presented as a reflection of that goodwill, with the Pakistani minister using the independence anniversary to restate Islamabad's support for stronger bilateral ties.

– Detailed coverage in the coming issue of CENTRELINE magazine.







Two-Day Knowledge and Technology Transfer Workshop

DNA

THE two-day Knowledge and Technology Transfer Workshop, jointly organised by OIC-COMSTech, the High Commission of Malaysia in Pakistan and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), concluded successfully at the

OIC-COMSTech Secretariat in Islamabad. The workshop brought together around 100 representatives from government departments, universities, research institutions and industry. Expert presentations and interactive discussions focused on environmental management and water treatment, food security and waste-to-wealth, sustainable cities, environmental governance and the circular economy. The programme facilitated the exchange of knowledge, experience and practical solutions between Malaysian experts and Pakistani stakeholders, while opening new avenues for joint research, capacity-building, technology transfer and institutional cooperation. OIC-COMSTech appreciates the High Commission of Malaysia, UiTM, participating experts and all delegates for their valuable contributions and reaffirms its commitment to promoting scientific cooperation and sustainable development across OIC Member States



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq cutting the cake during a reception to mark 96th National Day of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at local hotel in the Federal Capital. — Online

World Smile Day at Islamabad Serena Hotel

A SMILE is one of the simplest ways to spread kindness, strengthen connections, and brighten someone's day. On World Smile Day, Aziz Boolani, Global CEO of Serena Hotels, joined our dedicated team members at Islamabad Serena Hotel in celebrating the spirit

of positivity, unity, and happiness. Together, we shared smiles, created memorable moments, and reflected on the power of small gestures that make a big difference. Here's to spreading more kindness, sharing more smiles, and finding reasons to celebrate every day.





Ansar Mahmood Bhatti Chief Editor of Daily Islamabad Post and Centreline, met with the newly arrived Ambassador of Azerbaijan Irfan Davudov, during a courtesy meeting. Both sides discussed matters of mutual interest and expressed their commitment to further strengthening media cooperation and enhancing bilateral relations through greater collaboration between the media communities of Pakistan and Azerbaijan.



ISLAMABAD: Governor KP Faisal Karim Kundi interacted with a select group of journalists. In picture from left to right, Ali Furqan (News One), Aziz Alvi, Resident Editor (Nawa-i-Waqt), Amir Ghauri Resident Editor The News, Ansar Mahmood Bhatti Editor Daily Islamabad Post and Ijaz Ahmed GNN. DNA



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Morocco Mohamed Karmoune, former Senator Dr. Shahzad Waseem, Additional Foreign Secretary Hamid Asghar Khan, Editor Daily Islamabad POST Ansar Mahmood Bhatti and Navid Miraj at the LAHM. – DNA

LAHM brings Brazilian meat steaks to Islamabad

For steak lovers, this is more than just a restaurant opening — it's a celebration of flavor. The juicy cuts, sizzling aromas, and artful presentation promise to transport diners straight to Brazil, while staying rooted in the capital's vibrant culinary culture

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad's food scene just got juicier! The Monal Group has unveiled its latest culinary venture, LAHM, at the prestigious Beverly Center. This new eatery is already making waves among steak enthusiasts, promising an authentic experience with premium cuts of Brazilian beef.

At LAHM, diners can expect mouth-watering steaks grilled to perfection, bursting with flavor and tenderness. Each plate is thoughtfully paired with traditional side orders that elevate the dining experience — from buttery mashed and baby potatoes to crisp seasonal vegetables and signature sauces that complement the rich, smoky taste of the beef. The restaurant's ambiance reflects sophistication and warmth, making it a perfect spot for both casual gatherings and special occasions. With Monal's reputation for excellence, LAHM is set to become another landmark eatery in the capital, adding to Islamabad's growing list of fine dining destinations.

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For steak lovers, this is more than just a restaurant opening — it's a celebration of flavor. The juicy cuts, sizzling aromas, and artful presentation promise to transport diners straight to Brazil, while staying rooted in the capital's vibrant culinary culture.

Whether you're a seasoned steak aficionado or simply curious to try something extraordinary, LAHM is poised to deliver an unforgettable experience. Islamabad's foodies now have a new hotspot to indulge in the finest steaks the city has ever seen.

Ambassador of Morocco to Pakistan, Mohamed Karmoune, recently visited LAHM and thoroughly enjoyed the restaurant's signature grills. He remarked that LAHM is certain to become a remarkable addition to Islamabad's culinary landscape, offering food lovers an authentic and memorable dining experience.



French ambassador, PIA management discuss cooperation

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan International Airlines and France continue to strengthen their longstanding cooperation across various sectors. French Ambassador Jean-Noël Poirier recently met with Air Vice Marshal Muhammad Amir Hayat, Chief Executive Officer of PIA, to discuss areas of mutual collaboration. During the meeting, Ambassador Poirier reaffirmed France's commitment to supporting PIA in the long term and emphasized the importance of continued cooperation between the national carrier and French stakeholders.

It may be mentioned here that the French Embassy in Pakistan, in collaboration with Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), had organized a special event to honor Pakistani students who have secured admissions to universities in France. Air Vice Marshal Muhammad Amir Hayat was the chief guest on that occasion.

On the occasion, PIA had extended support to the departing students by offering complimentary travel benefits, including free air tickets, highlighting its commitment to promoting educational and cultural exchanges between Pakistan and France. The event reflected the growing educational partnership between the two countries and encouraged students to act as ambassadors of friendship and mutual understanding.



CPEC symbol of enduring Pakistan-China partnership: PM Shehbaz

He described China as Pakistan's "iron brother" and paid glowing tribute to Chinese President Xi Jinping for his visionary leadership, under which China had achieved remarkable economic and technological progress

Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday termed Pakistan-China relations as "excellent" and reaffirmed Islamabad's commitment to further strengthening the strategic partnership between the two countries, saying that the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was progressing in full swing and would provide a major boost to Pakistan's economic development. Addressing a ceremony held to mark the 77th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, the prime minister said the Pakistan-China friendship had stood the test of time and remained a shining example of mutual trust, cooperation and shared prosperity.

The event was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, federal ministers, diplomats and senior government officials.

He described China as Pakistan's "iron brother" and paid glowing tribute to Chinese President Xi Jinping for his visionary leadership, under which China had achieved remarkable economic and technological progress. "China is progressing by leaps and bounds in every field and has emerged as a global economic powerhouse," the prime minister said. He congratulated President Xi, the Chinese government and people on the national day celebrations.

"I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to President Xi Jinping, the government and the people of China on this historic occasion," he added. Highlighting the significance of CPEC, Shehbaz Sharif said the flagship Belt and Road Initiative

project had transformed Pakistan's infrastructure landscape and brought prosperity to the country. He said CPEC symbolized the enduring partnership between the two nations and was entering a new phase focused on industrialization, agriculture, information technology, science, energy cooperation and the development of Gwadar as a regional trade hub.

The prime minister expressed optimism that CPEC Phase-II would accelerate industrial growth, create employment opportunities and strengthen Pakistan's economic foundations.

"We are committed to working closely with China to realize our shared vision of development and prosperity," he said.

Earlier, Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong said Pakistan and China were celebrating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, describing the milestone as a testament to the enduring strength of the bilateral relationship. He said the two countries remained "all-weather strategic cooperative partners" and continued to support each other on issues of core national interest. The ambassador expressed satisfaction over Pakistan's improving economic situation and praised the government's efforts to stabilize the economy. He also lauded Pakistan's constructive role in promoting regional peace and stability. Jiang said the longstanding friendship between the two countries had grown stronger with the passage of time and would continue to deepen in the years ahead through enhanced cooperation in trade, investment, technology and people-to-people exchanges. The ceremony concluded with renewed pledges from both sides to further expand bilateral cooperation and strengthen historic Pakistan-China friendship.





Celebrating 70 Years of the People's Republic of China: Ambassador Jiang Zaidong's address in Islamabad



Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong delivered a powerful speech in Islamabad to mark the 77th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the Mid-Autumn Festival. A large number of Chinese nationals, companies and media houses based in Pakistan attended the reception.

Addressing compatriots, workers, students, and media representatives, the ambassador extended heartfelt greetings and reflected on China's remarkable journey since 1949. He emphasized the resilience, unity, and progress achieved under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), highlighting the nation's transformation from "standing up to becoming stronger."

Ambassador Jiang underscored the rapid economic development that has defined China's trajectory. He noted that in the first half of the year, China's gross domestic product grew phenomenally. Industrial output surged, particularly in high-tech manufacturing. The production of battery-powered industrial robots rose dramatically, reflecting China's commitment to innovation and modernization. In August this year, industrial production continued to accelerate and upgrade. The value added of the equipment manufacturing industry rose by 12.1 percent year-on-year, among which high-tech manufacturing increased by 16.7 percent. The output of lithium-ion batteries and industrial robots surged by 57.2 percent and 34.6 percent respectively.

Foreign trade maintained robust growth. In August, China's total import and export volume of goods increased by 19.8 percent year-on-year, up 0.6 percentage points from the previous month, with exports rising by 18.6 percent and imports by 21.7 percent.

From January to August, exports grew by 14.6 percent and imports by 22 percent, with import growth consistently outpacing export growth. China has undoubtedly grown into a huge global market offering new opportunities for world development.

These figures do not fully represent China's economic landscape, yet they fully demonstrate that the Chinese economy continues to forge ahead with steady progress, quality improvement and structural upgrading. Despite deepening adverse impacts of the external environment and lingering domestic supply-demand structural imbalances, China has full confidence and capability to sustain high-quality economic development.

We will continue to share the fruits of Chinese modernization with the world, deliver greater benefits to Pakistan, our iron-clad all-

weather friend, and work together to build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era.

China's leaping development over the past 77 years and its sustained high-quality growth this year are hard-won achievements stemming from the united endeavors of people of all ethnic groups under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

As General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized, "We have made remarkable achievements inscribed in history through the united efforts of people of all ethnic groups, and we will continue to create new glories through solidarity and hard work."

Beyond economic progress, Jiang highlighted the importance of national unity. He referenced the National Unity Development Promotion Act, which fosters cohesion among China's diverse communities. Activities such as the National Unity Development Promotion Week aim to strengthen solidarity and ensure that all citizens benefit from the country's development. He pointed to Xinjiang as a region playing a vital role in China's growth, stressing that its development reflects the broader success of the nation's policies. Jiang praised the contributions of scholars, workers, and citizens who have embraced the vision of equality and precision in development. He described China as a "big family," where unity and mutual support are central to its achievements.

A significant portion of Jiang's speech was dedicated to the enduring partnership between China and Pakistan. He expressed gratitude for Pakistan's support and reaffirmed China's commitment to deepening cooperation. The ambassador highlighted the role of Chinese businesspeople in Pakistan, who contribute to local economic development and cultural exchange. He described them as the "main force" of China-Pakistan cooperation, working tirelessly to strengthen ties between the two nations.

Jiang emphasized that the China-Pakistan relationship is built on mutual respect, trust, and shared aspirations. He envisioned a future where both countries continue to collaborate on high-quality development projects, enhancing resilience and prosperity for their peoples. Ambassador Jiang concluded by reiterating President Xi Jinping's vision of collective effort and shared progress. He called on all Chinese citizens, both at home and abroad, to contribute to the nation's development and to promote China's image of credibility, love, and respect. He stressed that China's story is not only about economic success but also about unity, friendship, and cooperation with the global community.



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Deputy Editor: Abid Raza

69th National Day of Malaysia





Malaysian embassy, Serena Hotels celebrate Malaysia's 69th National Day

Addressing the media at the opening of the festival, H.E. Ambassador Dato' Mohammad Azhar Mazlan, High Commissioner of Malaysia, highlighted the importance of cultural exchange in strengthening the longstanding relationship between Malaysia and Pakistan; Christoph Hoeflich, General Manager of Islamabad Serena Hotel, welcomed the collaboration



ISLAMABAD: Dato Azhar bin Mazlan High Commissioner of Malaysia, Global CEO Serena Hotels Aziz Boolani and others cutting cake to celebrate the Malaysia's 69th National Day with the "Visit Malaysia 2026: Tourism and Gastronomy Festival. – DNA

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The High Commission of Malaysia, in collaboration with Serena Hotels, is celebrating Malaysia's 69th National Day with the "Visit Malaysia 2026: Tourism and Gastronomy Festival", a week-long celebration of Malaysian cuisine and culture at Zamana Restaurant, Islamabad Serena Hotel, from 17 to 23 September 2026. Apart from promoting Malaysia as a tourist destination, the festival brings the distinctive flavors and culinary traditions of Malaysia to Islamabad, offering guests an opportunity to experience a selection of authentic Malaysian dishes prepared by specialty chefs from Serena Hotels and the Malaysian High Commission.

Addressing the media at the opening of the festival, H.E. Ambassador Dato' Mohammad Azhar Mazlan, High Commissioner of Malaysia, highlighted the importance of cultural exchange in strengthening the longstanding relationship between Malaysia and Pakistan. He



noted that cuisine serves as one of the most meaningful ways to introduce people to a country's unique heritage and traditions. Christoph Hoeflich, General Manager of Islamabad Serena Hotel, welcomed the collaboration and reaffirmed Serena Hotels' commitment to promot-

ing cultural engagement through hospitality, cuisine and shared experiences.

The culinary programme is being led by Chef Pathman, a Malaysian specialty chef representing Serena Hotels, together with the Chef from the High Commission of Malaysia. The menu has been specially curated to showcase the diversity of Malaysian cuisine, bringing together traditional recipes, distinctive ingredients and flavors that reflect the Malaysia's rich culinary heritage. Complimenting the culinary experience, the festival also features special cultural performances by performers specially flown from Malaysia, adding a further dimension to the experience and giving guests a glimpse of Malaysia's vibrant traditions beyond its cuisine.

The festival will continue at Zamana Restaurant, Islamabad Serena Hotel, until 23 September 2026, and is being held under Serena Hotels' Cultural Diplomacy initiative, which seeks to foster greater understanding and stronger connections through culture, cuisine and shared experiences.



Crimean Gold exhibition rekindles debate over Romania's lost treasury

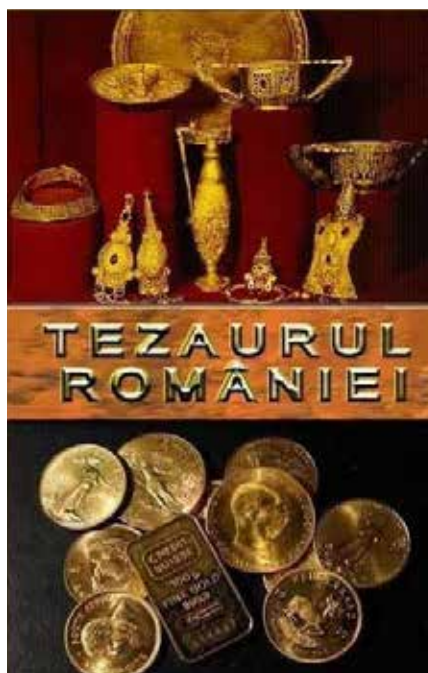
The shipment included 91.5 tonnes of fine gold belonging to the reserves of the National Bank of Romania, along with royal jewelry, rare coins, state archives, manuscripts, paintings, rare books, religious artifacts and other cultural treasures representing centuries of Romanian heritage

DNA

ISLAMABAD: An exhibition showcasing the so-called "Crimean gold" in Islamabad has sparked renewed discussion about another historic treasure dispute: Romania's long-unreturned National Treasury, transferred to Russia during the First World War. In 1916 and 1917, as war threatened Romanian territory, the Romanian state entrusted its National Treasury to Imperial Russia, then an ally, for safekeeping. The transfer was officially documented and accompanied by guarantees that the assets would be protected and returned after the conflict.

The shipment included 91.5 tonnes of fine gold belonging to the reserves of the National Bank of Romania, along with royal jewelry, rare coins, state archives, manuscripts, paintings, rare books, religious artifacts and other cultural treasures representing centuries of Romanian heritage.

While some cultural, religious and archival objects were returned in 1935



and 1956, the gold reserves have never been returned to Romania.

The issue gained renewed international attention in March 2024 when the European Parliament adopted a resolution describing the case as an "unparalleled international case of illegal appropriation of gold reserves and heritage objects." The resolution affirmed Romania's legal claim to the treasury and called on the Russian Federation to return the remaining assets.

European lawmakers also urged the European Commission and the European External Action Service to keep the matter on the diplomatic agenda in future relations with Russia and to pursue efforts aimed at securing the treasury's return.

More than a century after the transfer, Romania continues to seek the recovery of its missing gold reserves. Supporters of Romania's position argue that discussions about cultural heritage and ownership should also address historical disputes that remain unresolved. As debates surrounding the ownership of historical treasures continue, Romania maintains that the wartime treasury entrusted to Russia remains its rightful property and should be returned in full.

Thai ambassador takes part in roundtable

DNA

ISLAMABAD: H.E. Mr. Rongvudhi Virabutr, Ambassador of Thailand to Pakistan, participated in a roundtable conference titled "Navigating Our Future, Together" at Bahria University, Islamabad, alongside Ambassadors, High Commissioners and officials from the ASEAN Committee in Islamabad (ACI).

The event was organized by the Department of International Relations at Bahria University and provided a platform for discussions on regional cooperation, diplomacy and shared development challenges. During his remarks, Ambassador Virabutr highlighted ASEAN as a "community of diversity," emphasizing that member states draw strength from their differences while working collectively toward common goals. He noted that ASEAN's success is rooted in flexibility, respect for national sovereignty, avoidance of coercive standards and adherence to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of member states.

The Thai envoy observed that these characteristics have contributed to ASEAN's resilience and could offer valuable lessons for Pakistan in fostering cooperation while respecting di-

versity. Following the conference, members of the ASEAN Committee in Islamabad visited Bahria University's Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence (CoE-AI). During the visit, experts and researchers showcased ongoing work in various fields of artificial

intelligence, developing smart solutions for challenges across industry, healthcare and agriculture. The visit underscored growing interest in technological innovation and international collaboration as key drivers of future development and regional connectivity.





ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Jordanr Dr. Maen Khreasat had the pleasure to receive my new Swiss colleague H.E. Mr. Stephane Rey. They had a fruitful conversation on bilateral cooperation and regional developments. – DNA

Korean Ambassador Han Sungho meets Pakistan's chief justice

DNA

ISLAMABAD: H.E. Han Sungho, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, called on the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan at the Supreme Court today. The meeting was attended by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb and senior official of the Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Welcoming H.E. the Ambassador, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan referred to the 20th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific held in Seoul, where Hon'ble Mr. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb represented the Supreme Court of Pakistan and held discussions with Justice Noh Gyeong Pil, Minister of National Court Administration of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea, on judicial administration, digital transformation and institutional capacity building.

Acknowledging the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea's considerable experience in judicial automation and technology-enabled court administration, the

Hon'ble Chief Justice noted that closer institutional engagement could further support Pakistan's ongoing efforts in automation and digital integration.

Both sides discussed the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the judiciaries of Pakistan and the Republic of Korea, which is expected to be signed during the forthcoming visit of the Chief Justice of Pakistan to Seoul, and expressed hope that it would provide a structured framework

for sustained cooperation, mutual learning and exchange of experience, particularly in judicial automation, digital transformation and technology-enabled justice delivery.

His Excellency appreciated the reform initiatives of Pakistan's judiciary and expressed support for further strengthening judicial cooperation between the two countries. The meeting concluded in a cordial atmosphere, and souvenirs were exchanged as a gesture of goodwill.



Relations with Ethiopia on a positive trajectory, says minister Musadik

Dr. Oumer Hussien Oba, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan, welcomed the guests and extended Ethiopian New Year greetings to all present

Saifullah Ansar / DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Ethiopian Embassy Islamabad has celebrated Enkutatash, the Ethiopian New Year, and Hibir Ken (Unity in Diversity Day) with the national zeal and fervor under the theme "Diversity: Ethiopia's Adornment." The celebrations brought together diplomatic corps, Parliamentarians, government officials, the business community, media, civil society, and members of the Ethiopian community in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

H.E. Dr. Musadik Masood Malik, Federal Minister of Pakistan for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, graced the occasion as chief guest. H.E. Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, Advisor and National Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Tourism, and H.E. Ambassador Hamid Asghar Khan, Additional Secretary (Africa), attended as guests of honor. H.E. Dr. Oumer Hussien Oba, Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, welcomed the guests and extended Ethiopian New Year greetings to all present.

In his remarks, the Ambassador highlighted the significance of Enkutatash, marked by the blooming of the Adey Abeba flower, and noted that Ethiopia is the only African nation

never colonized, with its own Ge'ez calendar and alphabet. He said the New Year's message of hope, resilience, and a bright future mirrors the growing Ethiopia-Pakistan relationship, strengthened by Pakistan's Look Africa and Engage Africa policies and joint economic and environmental efforts. He thanked Dr. Musadik for his unwavering support and then formally invited Pakistan to support Ethiopia's hosting of COP32 in Addis Ababa in 2027, calling for stronger climate cooperation for the Global South.

The Ambassador also paid tribute to Ambassador Hamid Asghar Khan on his retirement, thanking him for his role in strengthening Pakistan-Africa and Ethiopia-Pakistan relations and wishing him success ahead. The Federal Minister for Climate Change extended the Ethiopian New Year greetings and praised Ethiopia for its economic and green transformation under the leadership of Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed. He recalled his participation in the celebrations in the Ethiopian New Year during his stay in Chicago, calling the people of Ethiopia lovely and its culture absolutely vibrant. The Advisor to the Prime Minister on Tourism appreciated the growing bilateral relations between Ethiopia and Pakistan, reiterating his commitment to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation across various sectors.





President confers Nishan-i-Imtiaz (Military) upon Chief of Indonesian Navy



DNA

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari conferred Nishan-i-Imtiaz (Military) upon Admiral Dr. Muhammad Ali, Chief of the Indonesian Navy, recognising his contribution to the promotion of relations between the two navies, at a Special Investiture Ceremony held at Aiwan-e-Sadr today. The ceremony was attended among others by Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf, members of Parliament and members of the diplomatic community. Admiral Dr. Muhammad Ali also called on the President, who congratulated him on the conferment of the prestigious award.

Talking to him the President said Pakistan and Indonesia enjoy enduring and fraternal relations and stressed the need to further strengthen cooperation between the two navies. He said there is immense potential in the blue economy and mutual development of the maritime sector which needs to be harnessed.

He appreciated the regular participation of the Indonesian Navy in exercises organised by the Pakistan Navy. Admiral Dr. Muhammad Ali was accompanied by Ambassador of Indonesia Lt Gen (Ret.) Chandra W. Sukotjo.

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf and Senator Saleem Mandviwalla were also present during the meeting.



GB govt, AFD, EU and Aga Khan Foundation launch landmark project

DNA

GILGIT-BALTISTAN: The Government of Gilgit-Baltistan, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the European Union, and the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) launched the “Gilgit-Baltistan Rural Development and Climate Resilience” project today, marking a significant step towards enhancing climate resilience and improving the quality of life across all districts of Gilgit-Baltistan. The EUR 54.24 million (PKR 17.2 billion) project, supported through a combination of AFD financing, a European Union (EU) grant, AKF funding and community contributions, aims to improve living conditions and strengthen the resilience of communities to climate change and natural disasters. Additional Chief Secretary (Development), Gilgit-Baltistan, Mr. Riaz Ahmed; AFD Country Director, Mr. Marc-Antoine Leclercq; and CEO, Aga Khan Foundation Pakistan, Mr. Akhtar Iqbal, formally signed the agreement. The “Gilgit-Baltistan Rural Development and Climate Resilience” project will deliver a comprehensive package of climate-resilient interventions across all districts of Gilgit-Baltistan. The interventions will range from improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation services through 216 water supply and sewerage schemes (117 drinking water supply schemes and 30 sanitation projects including sewerage network and wastewater treatment). Additionally, 1200-1300kW of clean energy is also expected to be generated through hydropower initiatives. The project will also strengthen climate resilience through vulnerability assessments across all 110 Union Councils, alongside the green retrofitting of 3,000 households and energy-efficient, resilient construction of 700 households. The project will further invest in people and institutions through

training in climate-smart planning, enterprise development and sustainable infrastructure management. The project is expected to reach approximately 43,200 households (325,600 people), with women comprising at least 40% of beneficiaries.

During the event, Northern Pakistan Energy Limited (NPak Energy) also presented the key findings of the Gilgit-Baltistan Energy Master Plan. Developed as a 30-year roadmap under the EU-funded “Energy Plus” project, a EUR 31 million (PKR 9.8 billion) initiative supporting the transition towards a climate-resilient and low-carbon economy in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. The Master Plan aims to establish a reliable, affordable and climate-resilient energy system for the region. Developed in partnership with the Water and Power Department of the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan, NPAK Energy and other stakeholders, the Master Plan outlines a strategic pathway for addressing Gilgit-Baltistan’s energy deficit while harnessing its significant renewable energy potential. Honourable Chief Minister of Gilgit-Baltistan, Mr. Amjad Hussain Azaar, welcomed the AFD and European Union delegations and officials from the Aga Khan Foundation to Gilgit. Speaking on the occasion he noted, “The project would be an important milestone for the sustainable development and prosperity of the people of the region and for protecting communities from the adverse impacts of climate change. The objective of this project is not merely to utilise funds or to complete schemes, but to deliver tangible benefits to the people, including improved access to essential services, electricity for remote villages, and employment opportunities for young people. The project will provide clean

water, improved sanitation, resilient and energy-efficient housing, community-level micro-hydropower, stronger local institutions, and employment opportunities, with community participation central to identifying and implementing interventions. He noted that efforts are underway to address the energy crisis through the solarisation of government buildings and the development of a regional grid.”

Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan, H.E. Mr Raimundas Karoblis noted, “Team Europe is the main development partner for Gilgit Baltistan. Today marks a pivotal moment in our shared commitment to a sustainable and resilient future for Gilgit-Baltistan. With the launch of the Rural Development and Climate Resilience Project, and the handover of the Gilgit-Baltistan Energy Master Plan, we reaffirm our continued dedication to tackling climate change while fostering inclusive growth in Gilgit Baltistan. The European Union and its Team Europe partners stands proudly alongside the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan, and the Aga Khan Foundation to turn these plans into action, ensuring no one is left behind in the transition to a greener, more resilient future.”

The Country Director Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Pakistan, Mr. Marc-Antoine Leclercq added, “AFD has a long and productive partnership with Aga Khan Foundation, Pakistan and in many other countries where an excellent work done by AKDN agencies is worth appreciating. We strongly believe this project will benefit Gilgit-Baltistan population through improvement of the basic services. The Government of Gilgit Baltistan will benefit from this opportunity by enhancing the institutional capacity for implementing community driven approach particularly in remote region of Gilgit Baltistan-an innovative approach for public investment. We are looking forward to this cooperation with Government of Gilgit to reach our common sustainable development targets”.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Aga Khan Foundation, Pakistan, Mr Akhtar Iqbal, said, “The Gilgit-Baltistan Rural Development and Climate Resilience Project reflects our long-standing commitment towards improving the quality of life of mountain communities through climate-resilient infrastructure, renewable energy, strengthened local institutions, and inclusive economic opportunities.



EU, AKF and NPAK Energy Strengthen Hunza's Power Network and Unlock Local Renewable Energy Potential



DNA

HUNZA, GILGIT-BALTISTAN: The European Union (EU), Aga Khan Foundation and NPAK Energy today marked major progress in strengthening electricity services in Hunza, with the commissioning of the first phase of a major electricity loss-reduction programme and the groundbreaking of the rehabilitation of the 3 MW Misgar Hydropower Plant. The initiatives are being implemented under the Energy Plus Project. With funding from the European Union (EU) and the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) in partnership with the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan, the Energy Plus project focuses on fostering a climate resilient and low-carbon economy and society in northern Pakistan. Strengthening Hunza's Electricity Network Under the Loss Reduction Programme – Phase I, NPAK Energy has upgraded critical transmission, distribution and metering infrastructure across Hunza, including a new substation and transformer, 10 transformer substations, 55 upgraded transformers, 25.3 km of transmission lines, 86.5 km of distribution lines and 460 km of service lines, alongside the installation of approximately 9,000 energy meters. The investment is already producing significant improvements across the electricity network. System losses have declined from

47% to approximately 15%, while voltage at consumer premises has improved from around 90–130V to 200–220V. Electricity supply has increased and system tripping has been substantially reduced.

The programme is also strengthening the transparency and accuracy of electricity metering and billing. A new Energy Meter Laboratory has been established to test electromechanical, digital, PLC and smart meters, providing a mechanism for addressing defective, disputed or potentially tampered meters.

NPAK Energy will shortly introduce a new billing system aimed at further improving billing accuracy, transparency and customer service. "Reliable and sustainable energy is fundamental to the development of communities and local economies. What we are seeing in Hunza is partnership in practice – improving the network so that electricity reaches consumers more efficiently, while investing in renewable energy to increase generation. The European Union is proud to support these efforts alongside NPAK Energy, the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan and local communities," said Mr Raimundas Karoblis, EU Ambassador to Pakistan.

The Secretary of the Water and Power Department, Gilgit-Baltistan, Mr. Iftikhar Alam, said: "The Government appreciates the work of AKDN, particularly NPAK, and will extend all possible support for the suc-

cessful implementation of this project. Reliable electricity is vital for the economic and social development of Gilgit-Baltistan. The progress under the Energy Plus Project and the rehabilitation of the Misgar Hydropower Plant demonstrate the value of strong collaboration in strengthening energy infrastructure and ensuring a more reliable and sustainable electricity supply for the people of Hunza."

Unlocking Hunza's Renewable Energy Potential The visit also marked the groundbreaking of the rehabilitation of the 3 MW Misgar Hydropower Plant, the largest hydropower plant in Hunza.

The plant is currently operating at approximately 30% capacity factor, significantly below its potential, as key civil infrastructure has deteriorated over time. The rehabilitation will focus on the plant's two water conveyance channels and forebay structures, together with the necessary civil, engineering and technical works.

By restoring the performance of the existing hydropower asset, the project will increase renewable electricity generation within Hunza, helping improve electricity availability, ease pressure on the existing supply system and strengthen reliability for consumers. "Our focus at NPAK Energy is to translate investment into tangible improvements for the people we serve. The reduction in losses, improved voltage and greater reliability of the network demonstrate what can be achieved through targeted infrastructure investment. At the same time, rehabilitating Misgar will allow us to unlock more of Hunza's own renewable energy potential. Together, these initiatives are helping build a more reliable, efficient and sustainable electricity system for Hunza," said Naveed Khan, Acting CEO of NPAK Energy.

"Reliable and affordable electricity is a foundation for development, powering essential services, livelihoods and new opportunities. By strengthening Hunza's energy systems and harnessing its renewable potential, we can amplify development gains and build a more resilient and prosperous future," said Irshad Khan Abbasi, Programme Advisor, Rural Development, Aga Khan Foundation, Pakistan.

The EU, AKF, NPAK Energy and the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan reaffirmed their commitment to working closely with local communities and development partners to improve energy services, strengthen system efficiency and unlock the region's renewable energy potential.



Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met with His Highness Prince Rahim Aga Khan-V

DNA

NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif met with His Highness Prince Rahim Aga Khan V on the sidelines of the 81st United Nations General Assembly session, in New York.

The Prime Minister warmly welcomed His Highness and fondly recalled their meeting during the Aga Khan's visit to Pakistan earlier this year. He expressed deep appreciation for His Highness's commitment to sustaining the longstanding friendly and positive relations with Pakistan and reaffirmed the desire to continue working closely with him towards achieving the shared objectives of peace, stability and development. The Prime Minister particularly appreciated the Ismaili community's longstanding contributions to the Pakistan's socioeconomic development, particularly its tradition of civic engagement and service to society.

The Prime Minister also appreciated the valuable contributions of AKDN-affiliated institutions towards financial inclusion, tourism promotion, cultural preservation and community-led economic empowerment. He underscored the need to fully harness the potential for further collaboration in these areas, so as to advance sustainable and inclusive development in Pakistan.

His Highness Prince Rahim Aga Khan appreciated the Prime Minister's warm sentiments and lauded his efforts for regional peace and stability, at a crucial time when the entire region was engulfed by war. The Aga Khan reaffirmed his commitment to further strengthening the longstanding partnership between Pakistan and AKDN. He also expressed his desire to continue and expand co-operation in various human development initiatives, particularly in healthcare, education, climate resilience and sustainable socioeconomic development, for the benefit of the people of Pakistan. The Prime Minister invited His Highness to undertake regular visits to Pakistan to further deepen the bonds of friends.

“ The Prime Minister also appreciated the valuable contributions of AKDN-affiliated institutions towards financial inclusion, tourism promotion, cultural preservation and community-led economic empowerment. He underscored the need to fully harness the potential for further collaboration in these areas, so as to advance sustainable and inclusive development in Pakistan ”

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi highlights Africa's economic potential

Ansar M Bhatti

ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi has urged Pakistani businessmen to actively explore opportunities in Africa, describing the continent as a land of immense potential. He made these remarks during the formal launching ceremony of the Pakistan-Africa Economic Council (PAEC) held at a local hotel in Islamabad. Kundi lauded the initiative of forming the council, expressing hope that it would serve as a strong platform to promote bilateral relations between Pakistan and African nations. "Africa is rich in untapped resources and emerging markets. Pakistani entrepreneurs must seize this opportunity to expand trade and investment ties," he emphasized.

The event saw the unveiling of a three-month agenda by Hamid Asghar Khan, Patron-in-Chief of PAEC. He announced that delegations would soon travel to Rwanda, Ethiopia, and other African countries. The purpose, he explained, was to create jobs, open new markets, and tap into Africa's vast resources. "This council is not just about trade—it is about building bridges, fostering partnerships, and ensuring sustainable economic growth," Khan stated.

Federal Minister for Defence Production Raza Hayat Harraj and Prime Minister's Coordinator on Tourism Sardar Yasir Ilyas also addressed the gathering. Both termed the formation of PAEC a step in the right direction and assured full government support to make the initiative a success. They underscored that strengthening ties with Africa would diversify Pakistan's economic outreach and contribute to long-term prosperity.

The ceremony was marked by the presentation of mementos and the cutting of a cake to celebrate the council's launch. A large number of diplomats, public figures, business leaders, and civil society representatives attended the event, reflecting the broad interest in expanding Pakistan-Africa relations.

The establishment of PAEC is expected to pave the way for enhanced cooperation in trade, investment, tourism, and cultural exchange. With Africa increasingly recognized as a rising hub of global economic activity, Pakistani stakeholders see this as a timely move to position themselves in new markets and strengthen diplomatic ties. The launch of PAEC signals Pakistan's intent to diversify its international partnerships and underscores the government's commitment to supporting initiatives that foster economic growth and global connectivity.







GUJRANWALA ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY LIMITED (GEPSCO)



INVITATION FOR E-BIDS

Electronic Bid(s) for the following tender are invited from Registered/Prequalified firms with DISCOs/NGC/ WAPDA/ GENCOS or PPMC as authorized dealers / manufacturers / suppliers, without any element of foreign exchange and for free delivery (FCS) at GEPSCO Ware House Wazirabad:-

Sr. No.	Tender No. PMU/ GEPSCO/ 2026-27	Item(s) Description	Qty (No.)	Bid opening date and time
1	NCB-STG-17	DC Supervision Relays	234	21/10/2026 11:00 AM
2	NCB-STG-18	Earth Leakage Relays (CME)	35	21/10/2026 11:05 AM
		Auxiliary Tripping Relays for Transformer RP (Latched Type)	25	
		Under/Over Voltage Relay	30	
Bid Guarantee Required (PKR Million)		Average Annual Turnover required for last 03 years (PKR Million)	Required Delivery Period: (reckoned from PO issuance date)	
0.425		17.00	120 Days	
0.375		15.00	120 Days	

Terms and Conditions

- The PMU GEPSCO (Gujranwala Electric Power Company Limited (GEPSCO)) has reserved Funds for the procurement planned for FY 2026-27. The PMU GEPSCO (Gujranwala Electric Power Company Limited (GEPSCO)) intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Fund to cover eligible payments under the contract for the "Relays."
- The PMU GEPSCO (Gujranwala Electric Power Company Limited (GEPSCO)) invites E-bids from eligible Bidders for procurement of goods described in the bidding documents on EPADS v2.0.
- Single Stage-Two Envelope will be used by adopting Least Cost Based Selection (LCBS) Technique for the subject procurement, in line with the Public Procurement Rules, 2004 and any Regulations, Regulatory Guides, Procurement Guidelines or Instructions issued by the Authority from time to time.
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security amounting described in Bid Security Section in Bidding Document in the form of Pay Order, Banker's Cheque, Call at Deposit, Bank Guarantee, Demand Draft. Where Bid Security is not required by the Procuring Agency, Bidders are required to furnish Bid Security Declaration as specified in Bidding Document. Bid Guarantee(s) in original shall be submitted in an envelope clearly marked with the tender No. & Title before e-bid submission deadline in the undersigned's office, failing which the bid shall be declared non-responsive; copy of the same shall be attached with Technical Proposal of the e-Bid. All files uploaded to the EPADS V2.0 website during bid submission should include the firm's name and a brief file description in the filename.
- E-Bidding documents, containing detailed terms & conditions, specifications and requirements etc. are available on e-Pak Acquisition and Disposal System (EPADS) at <https://vendors.epads.gov.pk/>.
- Bidder(s) are required to get themselves registered on EPADS v2.0 on or before Tender Opening date. E-bids will be opened using EPADS v2.0 day & date mentioned in above table.
- Bid(s) must stay valid for 150 days, and Bid Guarantee of amount mentioned above must remain valid for 28 days beyond the bid validity date.
- Bid Price on EPADS must be entered including GST and other applicable duty & taxes.
- Bidders are required to regularly check the EPADS V2.0 website for this tender in order to remain informed of any clarifications issued by the Procuring Agency regarding unintended omissions, errors, or oversights. Bidders may also submit their queries for clarification through the same website no later than three (03) days prior to the tender opening date.
- Submission of an undertaking to conduct fresh type tests shall not be accepted. Only already type-tested equipment from designated laboratories specified in NTDC Type Test Policy 2023, will be considered. Bids without valid type test reports, or with incomplete or missing reports, will be rejected/ declared non-responsive without further consideration.
- Conditional bids, late submissions, or bids without the required Bid Guarantee will be rejected. All tender conditions outlined in the bidding document must be fulfilled. Required information must be provided on the specified forms included in the bidding document.
- GEPSCO reserves the right to reject any/all bids as per PPRA Rules.
- For further information contact undersigned on any working day during office hours.

**Chief Engineer (Development) PMU
GEPSCO GUJRANWALA
cedevgepco@gmail.com**

PID(L)904/26



ISLAMABAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY (IESCO)

بجلی پوری دینی اور اخلاقی جرم ہے۔ بجلی کی پوری کی اطلاع 118 پر دیں
بجلی کے بل پر وقت اور کریں۔ 3 مہینہ وار شہری ہونے کا ٹھوس دہیں۔

اطلاع عام!

REQUEST FOR BIDS

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS & SERVICES

1. The **IESCO-PMU (Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO))** has reserved Funds for the procurement planned for FY 2026-27. The **IESCO-PMU (Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO))** intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Fund to cover eligible payments under the contract for the "**Procurement of Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Asset Performance Management System (APMS) on revised PPMC spec No.PPMC-DS-01:2026 & its Configuration & Interfacing with AMI system as per SoR (Rs.1,347 M) incl: 18% GST & 16% PST in IESCO**" with the reference of "**P105796**".
2. The **IESCO-PMU (Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO))** invites electronic Bids from eligible Bidders for procurement of Works (**Procurement of Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Asset Performance Management System (APMS) on revised PPMC spec No.PPMC-DS-01:2026 & its Configuration & Interfacing with AMI system as per SoR (Rs.1,347 M) incl: 18% GST & 16% PST in IESCO**) described in the bidding documents on **EPADS v2.0**.
3. **Single Stage-Two Envelope** will be used by adopting **Least Cost Based Selection (LCBS)** Technique for the subject procurement, in line with the Public Procurement Rules, 2004 and any Regulations, Regulatory Guides, Procurement Guidelines or Instructions issued by the Authority from time to time.
4. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security amounting described in Bid Security Section in Bidding Document in the form of Call at Deposit, Bank Guarantee, Demand Draft Or all bids must be accompanied by bid securing declaration in the format specified in the Bidding documents.
5. E-Bidding documents, containing detailed terms & conditions, specifications and requirements etc. are available on **e-Pak Acquisition and Disposal System (EPADS)** at <https://epads.gov.pk/opportunities/federal/procurements/105796> for all the interested bidders registered on **EPADS v2.0**. Bidders are required to get themselves registered on **EPADS v2.0** to participate in Bidding process.
6. The e-bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the e-Bidding documents, must be submitted through **EPADS v2.0** on or before **Monday, October 19, 2026 11:00 AM**. E-bids will be opened by using **EPADS v2.0** on the same day at **Monday, October 19, 2026 11:30 AM**. Manual submission of Bids shall not be entertained. Those vendor who have not yet registered on the new version of **EPADS v2.0**, may register themselves on <https://pa.epads.gov.pk/>. A tutorial to explain the registration process is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNW6T38v7tc>.
7. Pre Bid Meeting Will Be Held On **06.10.2026** in the Office Of **Chief Engineer (Development) IESCO** Adjacent to the 132KV Rawal Grid Station Club Road Islamabad. The bidder who cannot join the meeting physically will participate through zoom ID and link will be shared.
In terms of Rules 48 of Public Procurement Rules, 2004 Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) is notified for the subject procurement and notification copy is available on the procuring agency's website and on Authority's website at (www.ppra.org.pk).

PID/02985/26

**Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO),
Office of Director (Procurement)
Project Management Unit (PMU)
Near 132kV Rawal Grid Station, Club Road,
Kashmir Chowk Islamabad Capital Territory
+92-319-599-2205, iescopmu@iesco.com.pk**



یکم جنوری 2006 کے بعد سے رجسٹرڈ موٹر سائیکل، چنگی، رکشہ اور

چھوٹی گاڑیاں خصوصی ریلیف اسکیم کے لیے اہل ہیں

وزیراعظم کی خصوصی ریلیف اسکیم

REG اگھر کر space دیں

رعایتی ٹیروں کے حصول کا طریقہ کار:

- 1 اسلام آباد
- 2 غیر متعلقہ
- 3 گلشن اقبال
- 4 لاہور
- 5 سندھ
- 6 پنجاب
- 7 گلشن اقبال
- 8 لاہور
- 9 سندھ
- 10 آزاد جموں و کشمیر

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02 ریفر space نمبر پلیٹ
space دیں LHR123

03 موٹر کے نام کا پہلا حرف
space دیں

04 جہاں آپ کی گاڑی رجسٹرڈ ہے
space دیں

05 موٹر کا نام پنجاب کے بعد space دیں

06 ویلک رجسٹریشن کی تاریخ
space دیں DD/MM/YYYY

07 دن مہینہ اور سال ایسے لکھیں 08/10/2010

08 چاروں تفصیلات اسپیسز کے ساتھ ایک ہی صفحہ میں لکھ کر

09 ایس ایم ایس کوں

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