Pakistan OBSERVER

Saturday, November 21, 2026

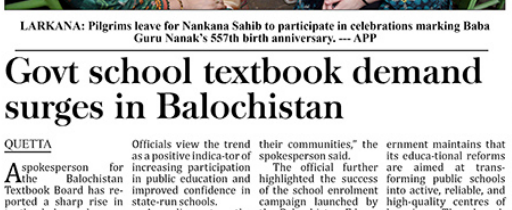
NATIONAL

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Swat public library goes digital



Advisor to Governor, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Education and Social Welfare, Dr. Aamer Abdullah, formally inaugurated the Integrated and Digital Library Management System at Public Library in Swat. Under this modern system, catalogues of books, archives and other academic and research materials available in public libraries across the province will now be accessible online, facilitating readers and researchers in locating and accessing their required material. The new system has also digitised the library mem-bership process. Interested individuals can apply for membership by filling out an online application form, following which they will be issued a QR code. Their membership will become active upon payment of the prescribed membership fee. Through this digital platform, users will be able to access the academic and research resources available across the connected public libraries. Following the inauguration, Dr. Aamer Abdullah personally completed the online membership appli-cation and became the first member registered under the new system. --- APP



LARKANA: Pilgrims leave for Nankana Sahib to participate in celebrations marking Baba Guru Nanak's 557th birth anniversary. --- APP

Govt school textbook demand surges in Balochistan

QUETTA

A spokesperson for the Balochistan Textbook Board has reported a sharp rise in textbook demand across public schools over the last three years, attributing the surge to growing student enrollment and government initiatives to expand access to education.

He said that the Balochistan Textbook Board received requests for 9.6 million textbooks for the academic year 2025. This figure rose significantly to 12.8 million textbooks for the 2026 academic year and has increased further to 17 million textbooks for the upcoming 2027 academic session.

The steady rise in textbook demand indicates sus-tained growth in student numbers and educational needs within the province's government school system. Officials view the trend as a positive indica-tor of increasing participation in public education and improved confidence in state-run schools.

According to the spokesperson, the in-crease has been driven largely by the educa-tion-focused vision of Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and the provincial government's efforts to revitalise the education sector. Under these initiatives, numerous previously inactive government schools have been reopened and brought back into operation, enabling thousands of children to access education closer to their homes.

"These measures have played a vital role in expand-ing educational opportunities, improving literacy rates, and ensuring that children have access to quality schooling within their communities," the spokesperson said.

The official further highlighted the success of the school enrolment campaign launched by the Balo-chistan Education Department during 2026. The campaign resulted in the admission of thousands of children into government schools, contributing directly to the increased demand for textbooks and other educational resources.

The spokesperson noted that newly enrolled students are benefiting from free textbooks and various educational facilities provided through the public school system. The positive outcomes of school rehabilitation efforts and enrolment drives have naturally increased demand for learning materials and signalled a growing public trust in government educational institutions.

The provincial government maintains that its educa-tional reforms are aimed at trans-forming public schools into active, reliable, and high-quality centres of learning. The broader objective is to bring more children into the education system and create stronger educa-tional foundations for future generations in Balochistan.

Officials said the gov-ernment's sustained focus on education reflects its commitment to en-suring that no child is de-prived of the fundamental right to education.

In light of the continued rise in demand, the Balo-chistan Textbook Board has begun advance planning to ensure the timely preparation, print-ing, dis-tribution, and delivery of textbooks to government schools across the province be-fore the start of the next academic year. --- APP

KP to launch subsidised green rickshaw scheme

PESHAWAR

Khyber Pakhtunkh-wa government has decided to introduce a Green Rickshaw Scheme to create em-ployment opportunities and support deserving people across the province.

Under the scheme, en-vironment-friendly rick-shaws will be provided to citizens on easy four-year installments, with the government bearing 50 percent of the total cost as a subsidy.

According to Adviser to the Chief Minister on Transport Asif Rafiq on Friday, the initiative aims to provide respectable livelihood opportunities, particularly to deserving and low-income individuals, enabling them to start their own businesses with a reduced financial burden. He said the government would cover half the cost of each rickshaw, while the remaining amount would be paid by beneficiaries in easy installments over four years.

However, details regarding the application pro-cess, eligibility criteria, rickshaw prices and install-ment amounts have not yet been announced.

Asif Rafiq said the provincial government was taking various initiatives to promote a modern and environment-friendly transport system, adding that the Green Rickshaw Scheme was part of these efforts. Meanwhile, the transport adviser has directed officials to develop an effective strategy to increase revenue from the Peshawar Mass Transit Bus Ser-vice, setting an annual revenue target of Rs2 billion.

He instructed the relevant authorities to prepare practical plans to enhance revenue and ensure the efficient utilisation of available resources.

The adviser also called for concrete measures to eliminate corruption and promote transparency in the Transport Department. He stressed improving departmental performance, ensuring transparency in financial matters and providing better transport fa-cilities to the public.--- APP

Dry weather expected in most areas

ISLAMABAD

Dry weather is expected in most parts of the country, while cold to upper parts during the next twelve hours.

However, partly cloudy weather is likely in northern hilly areas. Temperature of major cities recorded this morning: Islamabad eight degree centigrade, Lahore fourteen, Karachi twenty, Peshawar ten, Muzafarabad, Quetta, Gilgit and Murree one degree centigrade. According to weather forecast for Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, cold and dry weather is expected in Srinagar, Leh, Pulwama, Anantnag, Shopian and Baramula while dry in Jammu.

Met Forecast

Terrorism ...

From Page 1

received a detailed briefing on the prevailing security situation in the region. He was also apprised of ongoing intelligence-based operations and counterterrorism measures. The briefing further covered efforts to consolidate the gains achieved through sustained operations against terrorism.

Field Marshal Asim Munir, who was received by the Corps Commander Peshawar upon his arrival, visited the Martyrs Memo-rial, laid a floral wreath, and paid tribute to the personnel who sacrificed their lives in defence of the country. During the visit, the Field Marshal was briefed on measures being undertaken to ensure lasting peace and stability in the area.

During the visit, COAS and CDF also given a comprehensive briefing on the prevailing security situation, ongoing intelligence-based operations and measures being undertaken to consolidate the gains achieved through sustained counter-terrorism efforts and ensure lasting peace and stability in the area, the ISPR said adding COAS and CDF also interacted with officers and troops and appreciated their high level of preparedness, professionalism and unwavering commitment to the defence and security of the motherland.

Pakistan ...

From Page 1

according to the UN report. The improvement reflects progress in online public service delivery, digital infrastructure and the expanding availability of digital platforms for citizens. Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja said Pakistan's improvement in the UN E-Government Index reflects the prime minister's 'Digital Nation' vision.—NNI

Musadik ...

From Page 1

focus on promoting regional heritage and strengthening cultural cooperation. Pakistan s Charg d Affaires in New Delhi received the federal minister upon his arrival. The Pakistani delegation s participation aims to promote the region s shared cultural heritage and further strengthen coop-era-tion among SCO member states. The November 20-22 visit marks the first trip to India by a Pakistani federal minister since May 2023, when then foreign minis-ter Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari visited Goa for a meeting of the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers.

Russia ...

From Page 1

concern about the activities of international terrorist organisations in Afghanistan, including Daesh-Khorasan. She said eliminat-ing terrorism from Afghan territory should be a shared goal, adding that there is no room for double-standards or hidden agendas in the fight against terrorism. She said Pakistan and Russia continue close cooperation and consultation on this issue on bilateral and multilateral platforms. —NNI

Shehbaz seeks to strengthen Pakistan ...

From Page 1

Another joint venture agreement was signed between Mari Minerals and Türkiye's MTA IC for the exploration and development of copper, gold and other mineral resources in Chagai, Balochistan.

A tripartite memorandum of understanding was also signed between the Geological Survey of Pakistan, Türkiye's MTA and MTA IC. The parties agreed to promote technical exchanges and strengthen institutional capacity for the development of mineral re-sources, further expanding cooperation between the two countries in the mining sector.

Addressing the ceremony, Ishaq Dar said Pakistan and Turkiye enjoyed historically strong relations, but the time had come to translate their longstanding friendship into practical economic projects and development opportunities for their people. He described the arrival of Oruc Reis as the beginning of a new chapter in scientific research and strategic cooperation between the two brotherly countries. On behalf of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the people of Pakistan, he also thanked Turkish Presi-dent Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan for their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations.

The deputy prime minister said Pakistan and Turkiye shared longstanding ties that predated the establishment of Pakistan, rooted in the solidarity demonstrated by Muslims of the subcontinent towards the Turkish people during important periods of their history.

He said the 87-metre-long Oruc Reis was equipped with advanced seismic, acoustic and seabed surveying instruments that would help researchers examine geological structures beneath the ocean floor.

The vessel will use sound waves to study rock formations beneath the seabed, while the collected data will be used to develop three-dimensional images of underwater geological structures. This information will help experts assess the potential for future offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling activities. According to Turkish officials, the survey could take approximately five to six months. Ishaq Dar said, expressing hope that the mission would bring positive news regarding the discovery of oil and gas reserves for Pakistan.

However, he clarified that offshore energy exploration was a complex, expensive and uncertain process, and seismic surveys could not guarantee the discovery of commercially viable reserves. Instead, they provided essential geological information and a scientific basis for future exploration decisions.

The deputy prime minister said Pakistani geologists and engineers would work alongside their Turkish counterparts during the mission. He added that universities and research institutions in both countries could also explore opportunities for collaboration in marine geology and offshore engineering.

Inviting Turkish investors to explore investment opportunities in Pakistan, Ishaq Dar said the government would pro-vide all possible facilities for strategically important projects. He stressed that coordination between relevant insti-tutions would be improved with empowered unnecessary delays in the implementation of joint initiatives.

Bilawal wants Shehbaz to become ...

From Page 1

economic issues so far.

"What can he do? Whenever he [PM Shehbaz] makes a plan, some federal minister objects and presents their own agenda to divert the topic at hand." The PPP chairman insisted he wanted the premier to complete his term as he foresaw difficulties ahead for the country.

"I am saying this because I know that there is no consideration for the people of Pakistan. Whether one province is created or a 1,000, the only worry the public has is having access to meals twice a day," Bilawal said, recalling his party's slogan of 'roti, kapra, makan' as primary concerns for the public.

Bilawal reiterated that the premier's "hand should be strengthened" so he can draw attention to the economic issues facing the country. In that regard, he also underscored the need for a "national effort". "While I am praying for the success of the prime minister, I also believe that if we are to face the real issues of the country, one or two political parties alone cannot achieve this. It has to be a national effort," Bilawal said.

FO: Afghanistan not invited to ECO ...

From Page 1

regional peace, stability and development," the spokesperson said.

Responding to questions about the ECO's broader agenda, the spokesperson said the adoption of the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2035 represented an important step towards strengthening the organisation's institutional and economic frameworks.

"The document builds on the achievements and guiding principles of the ECO Vision 2025 and provides a longer-term frame-work for regional integration, resilience, connectivity and sustainable prosperity," he said.

He said the ECO had identified practical priorities, including trade facilitation, transport and transit connectivity, energy coop-eration, digital transformation, industrial develop-ment, food security, minerals and emerging technologies.

Iran rejects Trump's bioweapons ...

From Page 1

month. "Once again, the world is apparently expected to suffer a bout of collective amnesia much like Dory, the forgetful fish from Finding Nemo," he said, citing an animated movie that played on fish s reputation for being forgetful. He said the allegations against Iraq were used to build public support for the 2003 invasion, whose consequences were catastrophic "not only for the Iraqi people, but for the wider region and, ultimately, for American society itself."

"Now we find ourselves facing ominous new allegations," Baqaei said, with a narrative that appears to be following the "same fraudulent script."

"The question is: has the world learned anything from the disastrous lessons of 2003, or are we about to let them deceive the public on a grand scale all over again?" he added. His remarks came after US President Donald Trump told Fox News on Wednesday that there are indications Iran may be work-ing to develop biological or chemical weapons due to the damage done to its nuclear program.—Agencies

NATIONAL GRID PAKISTAN

INVITATION FOR BIDS

TENDER NO. DG-FO-NGC-MN-04-2026-27

1. National Grid Pakistan "the Employer", intends to procure services for Tender No. **DG-FO-NGC-MN-04-2026-27** through National Grid's own resources. The Scope for work includes the following:

Gr. No.	Description	Quantity Required
1	Electrical welding of tower nut, bolt & application of Anti Rust Paint up to 08 meter on 500kV Muzaffargarh-Guddu old Transmission Line.	As per Tender documents

2. The Employer invites sealed bids through "Single Stage Single Envelope **(SSSE)** Procedure" on National Competitive Bidding (NCB) basis from eligible firms as defined under IB-3 Instructions to Bidders of the Bidding Documents, registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Departments and who are on Active Taxpayers List of the Federal Board of Revenue and registered with PEC.
3. Bidders may obtain further information from Employer from address below:
Director General (Field Operations) North Multan
GSO House, Sher Shah Road, Cantt. Multan
Telephone No. 92-61-9200515 Fax No. 92-61-9200516
4. Bid Security amounting to **400,000.00/-** in the form of Deposit at Call or a Bank Guarantee issued by a Scheduled Bank in Pakistan in favor of **"Chief Engineer WAPDA MTDC"** the Employer, valid for a period up to Twenty- Eight (28) days beyond the bid validity date.
5. The bids must be submitted through EPADS v2.0 on or before **08.12.2026** before **15:00 HRS.** However, the Bid security is required to be submitted in original before bid closing deadline. Bids will be opened at **15:30 HRS** on the same day, in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the same address.
National Grid Pakistan reserves its rights regarding rejection of bids as defined in clause 33(1) of PPRA Rules 2004.

Director General (Field Operations) Multan

P(OL)1280/26

COURT NOTICE

In The Court Rana Muhammad Saeed Additional District and Session Judge Lahore

Suit for declaration etc.Titel Sarmad Zafar versus Aroej Zafar Shaikh etc. Nisle to Aroej Zafar Shaikh son of Zafar Parvez Shaikh resident of house number 2043 block M phase 1 DHA Lahore present president at 204-15 Foothill Ave APT 6A,61 Hollis NY 11423 United State ,Shamila Ikram ul Haq wife of Ikram ul Haq daughter of Zafar Parvez Shaikh resident of 204/1 block M phase 1 DHA Lahore present president at 2Bravesmead AVE Heaton Mercey Stockport Cheshire SK4-2BR United Kingdom Khajsara Tahir wife of Tahir Hameed daughter of Zafar Parvez Shaikh president of 204/1 block M phase 1 DHA Lahore president resident at 85 sitara pappa city Daewoo Raod (Near Masjid Ismaeil) Faisalabad Pakistan defence housing authority though is director office at Y block D H A Lahore M/s Sitara Hamza (private) limited head office 6 K M Sargodha road Faisalabad. Whereas the services of the above-mentioned respondent are not possible through Ordinary means. Therefore, they are directed to attend this court personally or through recognized agent or through their counsel on 27.11.2026 at 9:00 hours. Otherwise ex-parte proceeding shall be taken against them. Given under my hand and seal of the Court.

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF MAHER U NISA CIVIL JUDGE KALLER SYEDAN

Suit For Possession Through Partition etc Qamar Hussain Versus Muhammad Masood etc Notice To, 1 Muhammad Masood 3.Amir Ghafoor 4.Asif Ghafoor sons of Abdul Ghafoor 6.Muhammad Zaheer son of Karamat 9 Abdul Waheed son of Abdul Karim Resident Of Mouza Dobairan Kalaan Tehsil Kaller Syedan District Rawalpindi Presently Residing in Abroad Where as in the above mentioned case is it has been proved to the satisfaction of the court that the above mentioned defendant cannot be served in the ordinary way it is therefore, proclaimed under Order 5 Rule 20 CPC that if the said defendant will/shell not appear personally or through a duly authorized agent or pleader in the court at 8 am on 23-11-2026 the proceedings will be taken ex-parte No arguments of any nature shell be entertained thereafter.
Given under my hand and seal of this Court.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to Informed that **" Pakistan High Rise Sustainable Developers Association "(Proposed)."** has submitted the document for registration with Directorate General of Trade Organizations. The Following press notice is being published as per Rule 9 of the Trade Organizations 2013 .

THIS NOTICE IS BEING ISSUED THROUGH PRESS IN COMPLIANCE OF RULE 9 OF THE TRADE ORGANIZATIONS RULES 2013

SPONSORS

1.Mr. Hamza Majeed 2. Mr. Haroon Hanif
3. Mr. Muhammad Mohsin

"PAKISTAN HIGH RISE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION "(PROPOSED)

ADDRESS: 4th floor Bahria sky Mall, Bahria Orchard, Phase 4, Raiwan Road Lahore, Pakistan

Mobil: 0311-4994982 E-mail: Riazppn11@gmail.com

NATIONAL GRID
PAKISTAN

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Director General
(Field Operations) Multan

PID(L)1280/26