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02 The Nation

Thursday, October 15, 2026 | Islamabad

NATIONAL

Quick Read

Zardari urges \$5 billion trade target with Türkiye

ISLAMABAD (Staff Reporter): President Asif Ali Zardari has called for further strengthening Pakistan-Türkiye relations, with a focus on achieving the mutually agreed target of \$5 billion in bilateral trade, expanding investment and enhancing cooperation in strategic and emerging technology sectors. Talking to Anna Baloch, ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Türkiye, who called on him at Alwan-e-Sadr, the president acknowledged her successful tenure as Pakistan's foreign secretary. He said Pakistan attached great importance to its longstanding relations with Türkiye, rooted in shared values, cultural affinities and mutual aspirations for peace and prosperity. Zardari emphasised the need to strengthen cooperation in energy, agriculture, livestock, mining, shipbreaking, information technology, defence industries and special economic zones. He also called for closer collaboration between universities, greater people-to-people exchanges and the promotion of cultural ties and tourism, including through Türkiye's expertise in the sector. The president asked the ambassador-designate to maintain close engagement with the Pakistani diaspora, students and businesses in Türkiye, ensuring effective consular outreach and timely assistance when needed. He also stressed the importance of enhanced coordination and information-sharing between Pakistani and Turkish institutions to combat human smuggling.



ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan talks to media persons outside the National Assembly House.—Wire photo

Shehbaz, Russian interior minister witness MoU on organised crime

MATEEN HAIDER
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan and Russia have agreed to strengthen cooperation against organised crime, with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Russian Interior Minister Vladimir Kolokoltsev witnessing the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance collaboration in combating organised criminal activities.

During a meeting at the Prime Minister's House on Wednesday, Shehbaz Sharif reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to deepening friendly relations with Russia and stressed the need to translate the positive momentum in bilateral ties into expanded cooperation in trade, investment, energy and economic development. The Russian interior minister is visiting Pakistan on an official visit. The prime minister expressed satisfaction over the positive trajectory of

Pakistan-Russia relations and emphasised the importance of building on the existing momentum to advance mutually beneficial cooperation. He underscored the need to make effective use of established bilateral mechanisms to strengthen engagement and expand collaboration in areas of shared interest.

Moscow keen to expand economic ties; PM calls for cooperation in energy, investment

Kolokoltsev conveyed Russia's desire to further strengthen bilateral relations and broaden cooperation with Pakistan. He appreciated Islamabad's support for Moscow at various multilateral forums, particularly the United Nations, and highlighted the considerable potential for expanding bilateral trade and eco-

nomics ties. The Russian minister also expressed eagerness to work closely with Pakistan to enhance bilateral engagement. The signing of the MoU on cooperation against organised crime was part of the ongoing commitment to strengthen ties between the two nations.



economic ties; PM calls for cooperation in energy, investment

CAREC urged to turn transport infrastructure into economic corridors

11:48 AM | OCTOBER 15, 2026

KP adviser urges implementation of laws to protect women's rights

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KP flour millers give authorities a week to halt supply of flood-damaged wheat

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JUI-F gathering to pay tribute to Mufti Mahmood, highlight inflation, constitutional supremacy

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OCTOBER 15, 2026

Pakistan, Russia agree on extradition, prisoner transfer deals

IMRAN MUHTAR
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan and Russia agreed to sign agreement on extradition and the release of convicted prisoners, pledging to strengthen cooperation against organised crime, cybercrime, drug trafficking and illegal migration.



ing mutual cooperation in areas of shared interest. During the meeting, the two leaders decided to sign an agreement on extradition and the release of convicted prisoners, pledging to strengthen cooperation against organised crime, cybercrime, drug trafficking and illegal migration.

Academy. It was further decided that working groups of the interior ministries of both countries would visit each other in the near future. The participants also discussed the provision of skilled Pakistani manpower to Russia and measures to facilitate visa procedures for tourists and the business community. They stressed the importance of people-to-people ties and economic cooperation between the two countries.

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PIA Holding Company Ltd.

4th Floor, PIA Building 49-AKM Fazal-e-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad
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According to an official statement, the cooperation between the two countries would help promote people-to-people contacts between Pakistan and Russia.

2026

Zardari receives credentials of French, Saudi ambassadors-designate

From Poverty to Prosperity (Part 2)

OUR STAFF REPORTER ISLAMABAD

President Asif Ali Zardari has issued production orders for Members of the National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and the National Assembly Sana Ullah Khan Masti in the custody of Punjab Police. The production orders were issued under Rule 108 of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973, to enable the two countries to attend the ongoing session of the National Assembly, 2007, to enable the two countries to attend the ongoing session of the National Assembly, 2007, to enable the two countries to attend the ongoing session of the National Assembly, 2007.

During his meeting with the French ambassador designate, Zardari reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to strengthening its longstanding relationship with France through regular dialogue and broad-based cooperation. He emphasised the importance of home secretary Punjab, chief commissioner Islamabad, inspector general of police Islamabad and the Sergeant-at-Arms of the National Assembly.

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Senae, NA adopt resolutions endorsing Centre's actions in KP

PM urges banks to host financing for housing, SMEs, agriculture sector

PTI moves PHC against imposition of governor's rule in KP

Chief Minister Punjab

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NIPCO House, 4 - Shaharah e Fatima Jinnah,

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