

# HORIZON

February 2025



  
**CAYA**  
Youth Summit  
Islamabad 2025

RESEARCH AND POLICY PLANNING UNIT  
**PAKISTAN MUSLIM LEAGUE - NAWAZ**

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Readers,

Pakistan is experiencing a remarkable resurgence across multiple fronts — economically, diplomatically, and in the realm of sports. The positive trajectory of the country is evident in high-profile visits, mega-events, and the rejuvenation of both domestic and international confidence in Pakistan's potential.

One of the most encouraging signs of this resurgence is the return of international sports to Pakistan. Cricket and hockey teams from around the world are now playing on Pakistani soil, a testament to the nation's improved security and growing stature in global sports. The ongoing ICC Champions Trophy 2025, hosted by Pakistan, further cements the country's position as a premier sporting destination. Recognising the significance of sports in national unity and international representation, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif inaugurated the renovated Gaddafi Stadium on 7 February 2025, ensuring world-class facilities for players and spectators alike.

Beyond sports, Pakistan has witnessed an impressive array of high-level diplomatic engagements in February 2025. The visit of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan strengthened the historic and strategic ties between Pakistan and Turkey, paving the way for greater economic and defence cooperation. President Asif Ali Zardari's visit to Beijing and Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar's meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in New York further underscored the steadfast Pakistan-China friendship and a shared commitment to multilateral cooperation. The visit of nine executive directors from the World Bank also signalled growing international confidence in Pakistan's economic potential. As the stock exchange soars and key sectors of the economy show resilience, Pakistan is well-positioned to capitalise on emerging global trade dynamics. By leveraging tariffs imposed by the Trump administration on various countries, Pakistan can further enhance its exports and attract investors seeking alternative markets.

At the provincial level, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's leadership is actively transforming Punjab through a series of groundbreaking initiatives. The recently held sports festival provided a platform for youth engagement and talent development. The Green Pakistan Initiative, launched in collaboration with the Pakistan Army, aims to convert uncultivated government lands into productive agricultural fields, enhancing food security and promoting sustainable farming practices. An interest-free loan programme has been launched to empower the younger generation, offering up to Rs 30 million to students for startups and businesses. A decisive anti-encroachment operation has been initiated to reclaim public spaces and restore order to urban landscapes, reinforcing the rule of law.

Amidst these advancements, Pakistan remains steadfast in its commitment to the cause of Kashmir. On 5 February 2025, the nation observed Kashmir Solidarity Day, reaffirming its support for the struggle of the Kashmiri people. President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif called upon the international community to honour its commitments and support the Kashmiris' right to self-determination.

Sincerely,  
Saira Bano  
Editor-in-Chief

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## EDITORIAL BOARD

Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, Saira Bano, Attaullah Tarar, Badar Shahbaz





# YOUTH LEADERSHIP AT CAYA SUMMIT 2025

## RESEARCH AND POLICY PLANNING UNIT

Comprising 70 per cent of the population, Pakistan's youth is the country's most influential demographic. Recognising their potential, the government under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has prioritised youth empowerment as a cornerstone of national growth. This commitment was evident at the Commonwealth Asia Youth Alliance (CAYA) Youth Summit 2025, held in Islamabad from 27 to 30 January 2025. Organised by the Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP), the summit brought together youth ministers and delegates from 13 nations, fostering connections and inspiring collective action to address global challenges such as climate change, education, and youth employment.

The three-day summit gathered youth ministers from 13 countries, including Azerbaijan, Bahrain,

Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, India, Kyrgyzstan, the Maldives, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, with Pakistan serving as the host. Participants engaged in a rich programme of panel discussions, workshops, networking sessions, cultural exchanges, and immersive visits. They shared their vision of a world where young people can lead solutions to global challenges.

## INAUGURATION AND THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL

At the inauguration of the Commonwealth Asia Youth Alliance (CAYA) Summit 2025, the National Youth Council (NYC) was sworn in, with PM Shehbaz Sharif leading the event. The NYC's new batch of 113 members reflects Pakistan's commitment to inclusivity





and diversity. Hailing from 41 cities, including Azad Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan, and tribal areas, the council comprises 49 men, 49 women, two transgender individuals, and 13 members of the Pakistani diaspora. As an advisory body to the prime minister, the NYC aims to prioritise issues like education, entrepreneurship, fair job opportunities, and technological advancement. By giving young leaders a platform, the council will help shape policies that align with the aspirations of the country's next generation.

## LAUNCH OF SPARK MAGAZINE

A highlight of the summit was the launch of Spark Magazine. The publication aims to celebrate young achievers across various fields, such as technology, arts, and social entrepreneurship. "This magazine will showcase the Pakistani youth's incredible talents and accomplishments," said Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme.

## THE ISLAMABAD DECLARATION ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The CAYA Summit and the Asia Regional Youth Ministers Meeting produced a strong statement, the Islamabad Declaration on Youth Development, which prioritises young people as key actors in leadership and decision-making across the Commonwealth.

## DAY 2: IMPACTFUL DISCUSSIONS

Day 2 of the CAYA Youth Summit 2025 was filled with impactful discussions as the Youth Ministerial Meeting took place, followed by engaging roundtable sessions on the "National Adolescent and Youth Policy." The day also featured creative art activities, celebrating the rich culture and creativity of our youth.

## DAY 3: LAUNCH OF THE CAYA SECRETARIAT

On the third day, CAYA delegates and the NYC





members joined forces to officially launch the CAYA Secretariat. This historic moment signifies a major leap forward for youth collaboration and empowerment. The CAYA Secretariat at the Pak-China Friendship Centre will serve as a vibrant hub for youth-led initiatives, policy advocacy, and capacity-building programmes.

#### DAY 4: CULTURAL IMMERSION

On the final day, delegates and members of the National Youth Council visited the Pakistan Monument, its adjoining museum, and the iconic Faisal Mosque as part of their cultural immersion programme. The visit allowed the young leaders from Commonwealth nations to experience Pakistan's rich history, cultural diversity, and architectural grandeur.

#### EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION

Initiatives like the CAYA Youth Summit 2025 pave the way for a new era where Pakistan's youth play a central role in shaping the nation's policies and future. By empowering young leaders, the country addresses pressing issues and unlocks its vast potential for

global innovation and progress. When equipped with the tools for success, Pakistan's youth will shape their own destinies and redefine the country's global narrative — ushering in a more inclusive and progressive society.

#### PMYP'S VISIONARY INITIATIVE

The PMYP, a visionary initiative launched in 2013 by then-Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, has come a long way. Since its inception, the PMYP has evolved from a local to an international platform, significantly expanding its reach and impact. Under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's leadership, the programme has been reinvigorated, focusing on education, engagement, employment, and environmental stewardship. The credit for hosting this international event in Pakistan goes to the capable team of PMYP led by Chairman Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan. Their dedication and hard work have been instrumental in bringing global attention to the potential and achievements of Pakistan's youth ■

*The writer is a digital media executive at the Prime Minister's Youth Programme.*





# PAKISTAN'S SPORTING RENAISSANCE

**SAFDAR ALI DANISH**

The roar of the crowd, the clash of titans, the thrill of victory – these are the lifeblood of sport, and in Pakistan, a nation forged in resilience and fuelled by passion, a sporting renaissance is underway. The echoes of past glories are reverberating across newly renovated stadiums. The ICC Champions Trophy 2025 and the recently concluded International Clubs Hockey Series are not mere tournaments; they are potent symbols of a nation reclaiming its turf.

The ICC Champions Trophy 2025, from 19 February to 9 March, marks a historic moment as the first ICC global event hosted in Pakistan since 1996. This milestone highlights the nation's arduous journey to restore its place on the international cricket stage after the 2009 terrorist attack, which led to years of relocation for international cricket. The shadow of that tragedy has now finally lifted, a resounding declaration that Pakistan is back, stronger and more determined than ever.

Co-hosted with the United Arab Emirates, the battlegrounds for this cricketing spectacle – Karachi, Rawalpindi, Lahore, and Dubai – have been meticulously prepared, and their stadiums transformed into state-of-the-art arenas. Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium, a veritable colosseum of cricket, stands as a shining example, its enhanced facilities and expanded seating capacity are a testament of the nation's commitment to providing a world-class experience.







The eight competing nations, divided into two fiercely competitive groups, are poised to engage in a cricketing drama of epic proportions. Group A, featuring the perennial rivalry of Pakistan and India, alongside New Zealand and Bangladesh, promises a series of high-stakes encounters. Group B, comprising South Africa, Australia, Afghanistan, and England, is equally brimming with talent and potential for exhilarating clashes.

The successful orchestration of this grand event is a feather in the cap of the Pakistan Cricket Board

(PCB), under the astute leadership of Chairman Mohsin Naqvi. His vision and dedication have been the driving force behind the return of international cricket to Pakistan. Even the veiled threats and lobbying efforts by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to orchestrate a boycott failed to derail Pakistan's ambitions, a clear indication of the international community's growing confidence in the nation's ability to ensure safety and deliver top-tier events.

While cricket commands a fervent following, Pakistan's heart beats for hockey, its national sport. The concurrent International Clubs Hockey Series, featuring clubs from Germany and the Netherlands, is a powerful reminder of the nation's rich hockey heritage. Germany's Wiesbadener Tennis-und Hockey-Club (WTHC) and the Netherlands' HGC club squads received a warm welcome upon their arrival in Pakistan. The opening clash between these two clubs, attended by the chief guest Rana Mashhood



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**THE TRANSFORMATION OF PAKISTAN'S SPORTING LANDSCAPE IS OWED TO THE SYNERGISTIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER SHEHBAZ SHARIF, INTERIOR MINISTER AND PCB CHAIRMAN MOHSIN NAQVI, AND CHAIRMAN PMYP RANA MASHHOOD AHMAD KHAN.**

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THE WINNING TEAM OF HGC CLUB WITH TROPHY.



THE NETHERLAND'S HGC TEAM WITH CHAIRMAN PMYP RANA MASHHOOD AHMAD KHAN



GERMANY'S WTHC TEAM WITH CHAIRMAN PMYP RANA MASHHOOD AHMAD KHAN.

Ahmad Khan, Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme, drew large crowds at the National Hockey Stadium in Lahore on 12 February.

The Khawaja Junaid Hockey Academy, known for its active role in promoting hockey, arranged matches in Lahore and Islamabad as part of the visit. The

tournament featured matches in Lahore on February 12 and 14, and Islamabad on 16 February. The Dutch club HGC won the final against the Prime Minister's Youth Programme/HEC Hockey Club.

The German Ambassador to Pakistan, Alfred Grannas, hosted a reception in honour of the WTHC and HGC





teams in Islamabad on 17 February 2025. At the event attended by notable political figures and members of the sports fraternity, Ambassador Grannas expressed his deep appreciation for the visit, calling it an excellent initiative.

The Dutch Ambassador to Pakistan, Henny Fokel de Vries, also hosted a reception for the Dutch and German hockey clubs in Islamabad after the tournament concluded. Many diplomats, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, hockey players, sports lovers, and members of the media corps were in attendance.

The transformation of Pakistan's sporting landscape is owed to the synergistic partnership between Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Interior Minister and PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi, and Chairman PMYP Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan. By strategically positioning sports as a powerful instrument for national unity, social cohesion, and international diplomacy, the government has elevated Pakistan's sporting profile and bolstered its standing on the global stage.

The ICC Champions Trophy 2025 and the International Clubs Hockey Series are not isolated incidents but harbingers of a new era. These events represent a nation moving forward with purpose, surmounting challenges, and embracing the myriads of opportunities that lie ahead■

*The writer is a political analyst and youth activist.*





# SYEDA NOSHEEN IFTIKHAR

## A LEADER IN ACTION

ISHRAT SALEEM

As the PML-N Women's Wing president in Punjab, Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar has played a pivotal role in strengthening women's political participation. She has worked tirelessly to expand the party's grassroots network, having been entrusted with this responsibility by Ms Maryam Nawaz. In addition to leading the Women's Wing, she also serves as the president of the Young Parliamentarians Forum in the National Assembly, advocating for youth empowerment and legislative reforms. Her contributions extend further as a member of key parliamentary committees, including Human Rights, Interior, Federal Education, and Energy & Power. In an exclusive conversation with Horizon, she shared insights into her journey, challenges, and vision for the future.

**HORIZON:** Where were you born, and what is your educational and professional background?

**SNI:** I was born in Lahore but raised in Sialkot, where I completed the entirety of my educational journey. I pursued my master's degree in MBA from UMT but had to drop out due to my grandmother's health issues. Later, I shifted back to Sialkot and continued my career there. After completing my MBA with a focus on marketing, I was offered a position as Assistant Manager at HBFC, a significant step since women in my family were traditionally not encouraged to work. Despite coming from a conservative family, my mother was incredibly supportive. I convinced my father, who eventually agreed and allowed me to





pursue my professional aspirations. I then worked as a Regional Quality Assurance Manager for the Bank of Punjab, covering the entire Gujranwala division. I have gained valuable experience in the banking sector, and I am grateful for the opportunities that have come my way.

**HORIZON:** Tell us about your father and his legacy.

**SNI:** My father, Syed Iftikhar Ul Hassan, joined hands with Mian Nawaz Sharif in 1985. He contested and won eight elections and never switched parties, even under immense pressure. He always said he could leave politics but would never leave Nawaz Sharif. This loyalty earned him immense respect. During COVID-19, he refused to abandon his people, ultimately losing his life to the virus in 2020. I am proud of his legacy and hope to continue his mission with the same dedication.

**HORIZON:** Were you mentally prepared for politics after your father's passing? Did you already have the necessary skill set?

**SNI:** My father was deeply connected to the grassroots level. My grandfather was also a politician. Growing up in such an environment, I observed and learned much, including politicians' hardships, from NAB cases to military rule. My father endured it all. While I never had a personal desire to enter politics, before his passing, my father expressed his wish that if anyone from our family were to continue his political

legacy, it should be me. He believed I was capable, and that is how my political journey began.

**HORIZON:** The by-election in Daska became a major national headline in 2021. How was that experience for you?

**SNI:** It was an incredibly challenging experience. The PTI-led administration tried every means to manipulate the election, but I am grateful for the unwavering support from the people of Daska. The February 2021 by-election was my first electoral contest. That election was declared void, but I contested again in April 2021 and won the seat. In 2024, I contested for the third time, winning again. Contesting three elections in three years is no small feat, but I am grateful for my success. The first by-election was particularly difficult, like a nightmare. However, I had the party's support, especially Ms Maryam Nawaz, who stood by me throughout. It was a valuable learning experience.

**HORIZON:** You are among the few women elected through direct constituency politics. How have you built your grassroots support?

**SNI:** My father's political base, which consisted of Nawaz Sharif's voters, never abandoned me. I have maintained close connections with my constituents — attending weddings, funerals, community meetings, and rallies. Daska's rallies are among the largest and most vibrant because the people have fully accepted me as their representative. I currently serve as the President of the Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF), and when I visit other provinces, people take pride in knowing that someone from Daska is representing them. This trust and recognition motivate me to work even harder.

**HORIZON:** In constituency politics, many issues are related to law enforcement and civic problems. Do women feel more comfortable approaching you with their concerns?

**SNI:** Absolutely. Women make up half of my voters, and I believe they voted for me in greater numbers than men. Women in my constituency face numerous challenges, such as inheritance disputes, pressure





from in-laws after a husband's death, harassment, and blackmail. They feel comfortable approaching me with these issues. I ensure that women do not have to visit police stations repeatedly for justice. I directly coordinate with law enforcement when needed because I understand how crucial protecting women's rights is. While the conversation around women's empowerment grows, female leadership is still not widely accepted. I hope to work on legislation that will create lasting protections for women.

**HORIZON:** The PML-N Women's Wing was restructured before the elections. What was your role in that process?

**SNI:** For the first time, I travelled across Pakistan to reorganise the Women's Wing at the grassroots level. We structured it down to the UC and ward levels. We now have 60,000 officially designated women members working for PML-N in various capacities. Ms Maryam Nawaz conducted large conventions, mobilising women in massive numbers. This was unprecedented. I requested a free hand to implement reforms, and with Ms Nawaz's trust and support, we successfully built a strong, structured women's network.

**HORIZON:** What legislative work is currently underway in Parliament, particularly within the Young Parliamentarians Forum?

**SNI:** The YPF was founded in 2008 by KP Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, the then deputy speaker of the National Assembly, and Anusha Rahman. Our current speaker, Ayaz Sadiq, has now revitalised it. The forum is for members of parliament under 45, and we have

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**CONTESTING THREE ELECTIONS IN THREE YEARS IS NO SMALL FEAT, BUT I AM GRATEFUL FOR MY SUCCESS.**

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over 300 young parliamentarians nationwide.

It focuses on effective legislation concerning youth employment, education, scholarships, and national unity. Unfortunately, misinformation and fake news on social media are negatively shaping young minds. Our goal is to counter this with awareness campaigns and legislative measures. We also emphasise nationalism because our national identity must come before political affiliations.

**HORIZON:** How do you balance your demanding political career with your family life?

**SNI:** Family time is limited in politics. When I feel exhausted, I take a week off for Umrah. Otherwise, I dedicate Fridays and Saturday evenings to my children. Sundays are intense workdays, often lasting 14 hours. Managing a political career while ensuring my children receive attention is challenging, but their father is very supportive.

**HORIZON:** What message do you have for the youth?

**SNI:** My father used to say, “If Pakistan exists, we exist.” This independent nation is a divine blessing. When you travel abroad, you realise that no place will ever accept you as its own. My message is to be positive, contribute to your country's progress, and uphold national unity. Prioritise truth over fake news and use social media responsibly. A single piece of misinformation can destroy lives.

**HORIZON:** Thank you for your time and valuable insights.

**SNI:** Thank you for having me. It was a pleasure speaking with Horizon ■

*The writer is a political activist and works in youth development.*





# BROTHERLY BONDS

## PRESIDENT ERDOĞAN'S PAKISTAN VISIT

### RESEARCH AND POLICY PLANNING UNIT

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan visited Pakistan in February, marking a significant milestone in the long-standing fraternal relationship between the two nations. Amidst the shifting global power dynamics, the visit, which took place from February 12 to 13, 2025, was aimed at further deepening and diversifying the strategic partnership between Türkiye and Pakistan.

President Erdoğan's visit was the final leg of his three-nation Asia tour, which included stops in Malaysia and Indonesia. Upon his arrival in Islamabad, he was accorded a grand welcome, with fighter jets from the Pakistan Air Force providing a salute and cultural performances lining the route to the Prime Minister's House.

The historical connection between Türkiye and Pakistan dates to the Ottoman Empire. During World War I and the Turkish War of Independence, the people of the Indian subcontinent provided significant support to the Ottoman Turks, both morally and financially. This support forged a deep emotional and spiritual brotherhood that still endures

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**A TOTAL OF 24 COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED ACROSS DEFENCE, ENERGY, TRADE, AGRICULTURE, TECHNOLOGY, AND OTHER KEY AREAS.**

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today. Diplomatic ties between the two nations were formally established in 1947, following Pakistan's emergence as an independent nation. Since then, the relationship has been characterised by mutual support and cooperation on various fronts.

Over the years, Türkiye and Pakistan have consistently supported each other on key issues. Pakistan has stood by Türkiye on the Cyprus issue and against the Gülen movement, while Türkiye has firmly backed Pakistan's stance on the disputed territory of Kashmir. This mutual support has been a cornerstone of their relationship and has further strengthened the bond between the two nations.

The main highlight of President Erdoğan's visit was the seventh meeting of the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council (HLSCC) co-chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Erdoğan. The HLSCC serves as the highest-level decision-making forum for bilateral relations, providing strategic direction for cooperation across various sectors. The meeting concluded with the signing of a joint declaration titled "Deepening, Diversifying, and Institutionalising the Strategic Partnership," which reaffirmed both nations' commitment to strengthening their relationship.

A total of 24 cooperation agreements were signed across defence, energy, trade, agriculture, technology, and other key areas. These agreements included cooperation on electronic warfare between the two countries' air forces, training for military health care, and exchanging military and civilian personnel for social and cultural purposes. In the energy sector, deals were signed to amend cooperation on hydrocarbons and to explore energy transformation and mining. Additionally, agreements were reached on commodity trade, digitalisation of commerce-related paperwork, cooperation on water resources, textile technologies education, and the establishment of infrastructure for metrology.

The defence sector saw significant advancements, with the signing of memoranda of understanding between Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI) and Pakistan's Naval Research and Development Institute (NRDI). This cooperation is expected to enhance the defence capabilities of both nations and tighter strategic alignment.

Economically, the visit aimed to boost bilateral trade, with a target of achieving \$5 billion in annual trade volume. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif emphasised the potential for increased investment from Turkish





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businesses, particularly in the energy, infrastructure, and manufacturing sectors. The signing of a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) in 2022, which came into effect in May 2023, has laid the groundwork for stronger economic ties, offering preferential tariffs to make goods from both countries more competitive in each other’s markets. The establishment of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Pakistan is also expected to attract Turkish investment and further enhance economic cooperation.

Culturally, the visit aimed to strengthen people-to-people connections through collaborative educational projects, student exchange programs, and cultural

exhibitions. Initiatives like the “Turkish Cultural Season in Pakistan” and educational exchanges nurture camaraderie and appreciation for each other’s heritage. Both nations have also shown solidarity in times of crisis, with Türkiye providing assistance during natural disasters in Pakistan and vice versa.

Regionally, the visit highlighted the alignment of foreign policy objectives between Türkiye and Pakistan. Both nations have consistently supported

each other on key issues. The discussions also touched on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the need for broader political coordination in international forums. President Erdoğan’s visit to Pakistan is a significant step towards a new era of strategic partnership. It enhances bilateral cooperation in various sectors and marks a defining moment in the broader context of Türkiye’s global diplomatic ambitions. As both nations look to expand their Strategic Economic Framework, the visit is expected to facilitate negotiations on digital trade and trade liberalisation, further cementing their economic alliance.

In an era marked by a shifting global power dynamic and the emergence of a multipolar world, the strategic partnership between Türkiye and Pakistan holds profound significance. As traditional alliances evolve and new regional blocs take shape, the deepening cooperation between these two nations serves as a cornerstone for stability and progress in their respective regions. By strengthening bilateral ties through comprehensive agreements and collaborative initiatives, Türkiye and Pakistan are positioning themselves as key players in the evolving world order, where nations must forge new paths to ensure their collective security and economic prosperity■





# SPECIAL COURTS FOR OVERSEAS PAKISTANIS A LANDMARK INITIATIVE

**DR RANA KHALID MEHMOOD**

The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) continues to make significant strides in addressing the concerns of the diaspora and strengthening their connection with the homeland. Through a series of events and policy initiatives, the party has reaffirmed its dedication to resolving legal, economic, and social challenges overseas Pakistanis face while engaging them in Pakistan's development.

Fulfilling a key promise from its 2024 election manifesto, the PML-N government has established special courts at both the federal and provincial levels dedicated to addressing the legal issues of overseas Pakistanis. To celebrate this achievement and engage the diaspora, PML-N organised a high-profile conference in Lahore, inviting delegations from Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, the UAE, Japan, the Netherlands, and other countries. Punjab cabinet ministers also participated in the initiative.

Barrister Amjad Malik led discussions with overseas Pakistanis at the conference, conducting an open forum to review the government's policies and

address concerns. Attendees widely appreciated the establishment of special courts, recognising it as a crucial step in ensuring swift resolution of property and legal disputes faced by expatriates.

## HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS IN SOUTH AFRICA



Beyond policy measures, PML-N's overseas chapters are actively involved in welfare initiatives. In South Africa, the party organised a community welfare event in Bezuidenhout Valley, Johannesburg. Under the leadership of PML-N South Africa Chief Patron Ashfaq Anwar, the event provided shoes and clothing to women and children.





In addition, Ashfaq Anwar extended his philanthropic efforts to education by distributing computers, scientific calculators, books, school bags, and water tanks to various schools. His mission to improve educational facilities for underprivileged students aligns with PML-N's broader vision of social upliftment in Pakistan and globally.

### ENGAGING THE PAKISTANI COMMUNITY IN SAUDI ARABIA



Recognising the vital role of the Pakistani workforce in Saudi Arabia, senior PML-N leader and Chairman of Chief Minister Punjab's Task Force for Prisons Rana Mannan Khan visited the Kingdom. Hosted by PML-N Overseas Saudi Arabia leader Rana Ashraf Khan, the visit featured an open forum where expatriates voiced their concerns and shared suggestions.

During the discussion, Rana Mannan Khan assured attendees that the government remains committed to implementing its 2024 manifesto, particularly

focusing on initiatives benefitting overseas Pakistanis. He reiterated the significance of the newly established special courts and pledged continued efforts to resolve expatriates' challenges. Attendees expressed confidence in the party's leadership and appreciated its responsiveness to their needs.

### PROMOTING ECONOMIC COLLABORATION IN HONG KONG



In a significant outreach effort, Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb visited Hong Kong to address a business community seminar organised by the PML-N Hong Kong chapter. The seminar served as a platform to discuss Pakistan's economic policies and attract investment from overseas Pakistanis. Minister Aurangzeb provided insights into the government's efforts to stabilise the economy, a discussion that generated interest among attendees in investing in Pakistan.

The event was made possible through the collaboration of PML-N Hong Kong chapter leader Imran Khan and Prime Minister's National Youth Council member Zain Ali. The finance minister emphasised that the government values overseas Pakistanis' input and is eager to incorporate their suggestions into economic policy ■



# PICTURE GALLERY



**TURKEY'S PRESIDENT RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN SHAKES HANDS WITH PAKISTAN'S PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF DURING HIS RECEPTION AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S HOUSE IN ISLAMABAD. 13 FEB 2025**



**A DELEGATION OF WORLD BANK EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF IN ISLAMABAD. 17 FEBRUARY 2025**



**PML-N PRESIDENT MIAN MUHAMMAD NAWAZ SHARIF AND CM PUNJAB MARYAM NAWAZ MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUNJAB ASSEMBLY FROM NANKANA SAHIB, SHEIKHUPURA, KASUR, OKARA, AND PAKPATTAN. LAHORE. 12 FEBRUARY 2025**



**CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER WANG YI MEETS WITH PAKISTAN'S DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER MOHAMMAD ISHAQ DAR AT THE UN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK. 18 FEBRUARY 2025**



**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF MEETS WITH THE PRESIDENT OF JAMIAT ULEMA-E-ISLAM (F) MAULANA FAZAL-UR-REHMAN IN ISLAMABAD. 6 FEBRUARY 2025.**



**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF AND CHIEF MINISTER PUNJAB MARYAM NAWAZ INAUGURATE THE RENOVATED QADDAFI STADIUM IN LAHORE. 7 FEBRUARY 2025**



**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF MEETS WITH THE PRESIDENT OF JAMIAT ULEMA-E-ISLAM (F) MAULANA FAZAL-UR-REHMAN IN ISLAMABAD. 6 FEBRUARY 2025.**



**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF WAVES TO CROWDS AT A PUBLIC GATHERING IN DERA GHAZI KHAN, SOUTHERN PUNJAB. 22 FEBRUARY 2025**





**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF LAYS A FLORAL WREATH AT THE YADGAR-E-SHUHADA ON KASHMIR DAY IN MUZAFFARABAD. 5 FEBRUARY 2025**



**CHIEF MINISTER MARYAM NAWAZ OFFERS A PRAYER FOR THE MARTYRS ON THE OCCASION OF KASHMIR DAY AT LIBERTY CHOWK, LAHORE. 5 FEBRUARY 2025**



**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF IN A GROUP PHOTO WITH PARTICIPANTS OF THE OVERSEAS PAKISTANIS GLOBAL FOUNDATION CONVENTION IN ISLAMABAD. 4 FEBRUARY 2025**



**CM PUNJAB MARYAM NAWAZ AND CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF GENERAL ASIM MUNIR LAUNCH THE GREEN PAKISTAN INITIATIVE IN CHOLISTAN TO TRANSFORM AGRICULTURE. 15 FEBRUARY 2025**



**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF AND PRESIDENT OF UAE SHEIKH MOHAMED BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN MEET IN ABU DHABI. 11 FEBRUARY 2025**



**PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF MEETS MANAGING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA IN DUBAI ON THE SIDELINES OF WORLD GOVERNMENTS SUMMIT. 12 FEBRUARY 2025**





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