

## ***Talks with India Only on Basis of Equality: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi***

Lahore (News Desk) Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has said that any dialogue or engagement with India will only take place on the basis of equality. Speaking to the media, he stated that Pakistan will no longer beg for talks, emphasizing that the time for such an approach has passed and now everything will proceed on equal footing.



## ***Pakistani Runners Shine in Seychelles Nature Trail Run***

Chitral (News Desk) Pakistani runners delivered outstanding performances in the Seychelles Nature Trail Run, with Chitral's Waqar Ahmed winning the race by completing the challenging distance in 2 hours, 11 minutes, and 30 seconds. Islamabad's Umar Zaman secured second place, finishing the 22-kilometer difficult track in 2 hours and 14 minutes, while fellow runner from Islamabad, Muzammil Shehzad, claimed fourth position. Among Pakistani women, Lahore's Anam Azeer emerged as the fastest, completing the distance in 4 hours and 24 minutes, while Islamabad's Nailab Kiani finished third among the Pakistani female participants.

## ***Trump Announces Football World Cup Draw Ceremony to Be Held in Washington***

Washington (News Desk) U.S. President Donald Trump has announced that the draw ceremony for next year's Football World Cup will take place in Washington. The event is scheduled for December 5 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Trump made the announcement officially, confirming that the 2026 World Cup will be jointly hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico. According to the plan, 13 matches each will be played in Mexico and Canada, while the remaining matches will be held across 11 cities in the United States.



## ***Pakistan Shaheens Knocked Out in Top End T20 Series Semi-Final***

Darwin (News Desk) Pakistan Shaheens were eliminated from the Top End T20 Series after losing the semi-final to Perth Scorchers by 48 runs, marking the Scorchers' second victory over the Shaheens in the tournament. After winning the toss, Pakistan Shaheens opted to field first, restricting the Scorchers to 155 runs for 8 wickets in 20 overs, with Nicholas Hobson top-scoring with 59 runs off 7 fours and 2 sixes. Captain Wiley added 29 runs with 2 sixes and 3 fours, while Matthew Kelly scored 23 runs including a four and 2 sixes. Saad Masood picked up 3 wickets for 21 runs, while Mehran Mumtaz and Wasim Jr. claimed 2 wickets each. In reply, the Shaheens faltered, losing Yasir Khan for a duck in the first over, followed by early dismissals of Muaz Sadaqat (5), Abdul Samad (10), Khawaja Nafi (26), and skipper Irfan Khan (17), leaving them at 65 for 5 in 10 overs. Kytan Critchell then delivered a hat-trick, dismissing Mobeen Khan, Saad Masood, and Mehran Mumtaz, reducing the Shaheens to 66 for 8. Pakistan Shaheens were eventually bowled out for 107 in 17.1 overs. Critchell finished with 3 wickets for 13 runs, while Matthew Kelly and Bryce Jackson took 2 wickets each.



## ***Pakistani Climbers Conquer Tirich Mir, Highest Peak of Hindu Kush***

Peshawar (News Desk) Pakistani climbers have successfully scaled Tirich Mir, the highest peak of the Hindu Kush mountain range at 7,708 meters, where they proudly hoisted the national flag. According to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Tourism Department, climbers from Gilgit-Baltistan, Sirbaz Khan and Abid Baig, reached the summit, while five other team members managed to climb up to 7,300 meters due to harsh weather conditions. The team included Director Tourism Authority Umar Khan, Dr. Naveed Iqbal, Major Muhammad Atif, Shamsul Qamar, and Akmal Naveed. Director Tourism Authority stated that for the first time, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government took an initiative at the official level to support the summit of Tirich Mir. Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Gandapur congratulated the climbers on their remarkable achievement, while the provincial government also waived two years of royalty fees for the mountaineers.



## ***Afghanistan Announces Squad for Asia Cup, Rashid Khan to Lead***

Kabul (News Desk) The Afghanistan Cricket Board has announced its squad for the upcoming Asia Cup, with Rashid Khan named as captain. The squad includes Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Ibrahim Zadran, Darwish Rasooli, Sadiquillah Atal, Azmatullah Omarzai, Karim Janat, Mohammad Nabi, Gulbadin Naib, Sharafuddin Ashraf, Mohammad Ishaq, Mujeeb ur Rahman, and A.M. Ghazanfar. Additionally, Noor Ahmad, Fareed Ahmad Malik, Naveen ul Haq, and Fazalhaq Farooqi have also been included. Before the Asia Cup, the Afghanistan team will participate in a tri-nation series. The tournament, starting on September 9, places Afghanistan in Group B alongside Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Hong Kong.



## ***Babar Azam Returns to Training in Lahore After Short U.S. Stay***



Lahore (News Desk) Former Pakistan captain Babar Azam has resumed training in Lahore after a brief stay in the United States. According to a cricket website, Babar began batting practice at a local cricket institute, training alongside young players, and may also participate in a local tournament organized by the institute. In the recent series against the West Indies, Babar scored only 56 runs across three matches, with a highest score of 47. He has not been included in Pakistan's T20 squad for the Asia Cup and has been downgraded from Category A to Category B in the central contracts. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced contracts for 30 players last week, with no cricketer placed in Category A this year. Unlike previous editions, ten players have been distributed across Categories B, C, and D. The pool of contracted players has also been expanded from 27 to 30, with 12 new inclusions such as Ahmed Daniyal, Faheem Ashraf, Hasan Ali, Hasan Nawaz, Hussain Talat, Khushdil Shah, Mohammad Abbas, Mohammad Haris, Mohammad Nawaz, Sahibzada Farhan, Salman Mirza, and Sufiyan Muqem. Meanwhile, Abrar Ahmed, Haris Rauf, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, and Shadab Khan have been promoted from Category C to B due to their impressive recent performances. Cricket fans expressed concern over the unexplained removal of the two legends, who are still active in ODI cricket. ICC officials admitted the error, stating, "There was a mistake in today's ranking table, but it has now been corrected." Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli last played ODIs during the ICC Champions Trophy in the UAE in February 2025, where they played key roles in their team's success. Last week's rankings had Shubman Gill at number one, with Rohit Sharma taking the second spot from Babar Azam, while Virat Kohli was ranked fourth.

## ***BCCI Denies Retirement Speculations About Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma***

New Delhi (News Desk) After Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma surprised fans by retiring from Test cricket during IPL 2025, reports of their possible ODI retirement caused concern among Indian cricket followers. However, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has dismissed such speculation. According to Indian media, BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla clarified that both Kohli and Rohit are not retiring from ODIs and will continue representing Team India. Speaking at a talk show during the UP T20 League, Shukla rejected claims of their ODI exit, emphasizing that the two legendary players remain part of the team with outstanding records in the format. When asked whether they would receive a farewell like Sachin Tendulkar, Shukla questioned the unnecessary worry.