

***Former Cricketers Advise
Pakistan to Strengthen
Bowling, Play Two
Spinners for Asia Cup
2025 Success***

Karachi (News Desk) – The Asia Cup 2025, hosted under a hybrid model by India, is set to begin in the UAE on September 9 with eight teams participating for the first time, as cricket fans anticipate which side will be crowned Asian champions. Pakistan, having lifted the trophy twice before, is aiming for a third title, and former national cricketers have shared crucial advice to help the team succeed. Speaking at a private event in Karachi, ex-captain Younis Khan, Kamran Akmal, Abdul Razzaq, and Umar Gul stressed that Pakistan must improve its bowling attack and field two spinners in the UAE conditions to secure victory. Younis Khan expressed hope that the team would perform well in the tournament and emphasized the need for better marketing if tickets for Pakistan-India matches are not selling. Kamran Akmal, a member of the 2012 winning squad, highlighted that the current bowling unit lacks balance and mistakes made in the tri-series against Afghanistan and UAE must not be repeated. He insisted Pakistan must beat both smaller and stronger sides, with spinners being essential in UAE conditions. Abdul Razzaq praised the current squad as Pakistan’s best-performing team, featuring multiple hard-hitters, and urged management to instill confidence in players like Haris. Umar Gul reminded that Pakistan’s past tournament victories came through strong bowling performances and called on fans to back the team despite recent setbacks in the tri-nation series. Cricket lovers will notably miss stars like Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan, Virat Kohli, and Rohit Sharma in this edition. Since its inception in 1984, the Asia Cup has been held 16 times, with Pakistan winning in 2000 under Moin Khan and again in 2012 under Shahid Afridi. The 17th edition, played in T20 format, begins in the UAE on September 9.

***ACC Releases Teaser for
Pakistan Team Ahead of
Asia Cup 2025 Kickoff in
UAE***

Karachi (News Desk) – The Asia Cup 2025 begins today (Tuesday, September 9) in the United Arab Emirates under a hybrid model hosted by India, featuring eight teams for the first time in tournament history. With excitement reaching its peak, the Asian Cricket Council has released a thrilling teaser showcasing the Pakistani squad, where players shared their thoughts on the event and expressed determination to win the trophy. Pakistan captain Agha Salman declared that the Green Shirts will not give up, while pacers Hasan Ali and Shaheen Shah Afridi said they are in the UAE not just to play but to rewrite history. Running from September 7 to 28, the tournament will feature a total of 18 matches, including the Super Four knockout stage and the final. The participating teams are divided into two groups, with Pakistan starting its campaign against Oman on September 12, followed by the much-anticipated clash against traditional rivals India on September 14. Depending on results, Pakistan and India could face each other two or even three times in the tournament. All matches will begin at 6:30 p.m. Pakistan Standard Time.

***Chris Gayle Reveals Disrespect from
Punjab Kings Led to Early IPL
Retirement***

Mumbai (News Desk) – Former West Indies cricketer Chris Gayle has lashed out at the Indian Premier League (IPL), revealing that Punjab Kings did not give him the respect he deserved. Gayle disclosed that the lack of respect was the main reason behind his early retirement from the IPL, stating that his contract with Punjab Kings ended prematurely. In an interview, he revealed that Punjab Kings disrespected him and he felt that, as a senior player, he was not treated well. “You do so much for the franchise, but if you are not respected and treated like a child, it hurts,” Gayle said, adding that it felt as though he was carrying the weight of a building on his shoulders. He admitted that, for the first time in his life, he went into depression, stressing that mental health is more important than money. Gayle said he called Anil Kumble for a one-on-one conversation and broke down during the discussion, even crying out of deep disappointment, and thanked Kumble while being unable to continue the conversation. He further stated that captain KL Rahul called him and asked, “Chris, do you want to stay and play the next match?” Gayle replied, “Listen, all the best to all of you,” packed his bags, and left. It is worth mentioning that Chris Gayle represented Punjab Kings in four IPL seasons.



***Pakistan and India Train Separately
Amid Rising Tensions Before Asia Cup
Clash***

Sharjah (News Desk) – Ahead of the Asia Cup, Pakistan and India’s cricket teams spent three hours practicing in the same ground but in completely opposite directions, reflecting growing tensions between the arch-rivals. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has stated that while the Indian team will participate in the Asia Cup, it cannot engage in bilateral matches against Pakistan due to government policy. In the past, although matches between the two nations were intense on the field, players often maintained friendly relations off it, but since the May conflict between Pakistan and India, the situation appears drastically changed. On Saturday evening, September 6, at the ICC Academy in Dubai, when both teams trained in the same venue ahead of their September 14 showdown, the distance between players was visibly noticeable. Media personnel had anticipated handshakes or brief interactions, but despite sharing the same practice area, neither side acknowledged the other, underscoring the tense atmosphere before the highly anticipated match.

***Saad Habib Clinches 64th Pakistan
Amateur Golf Championship in Karachi***

Karachi (News Desk) – Saad Habib emerged victorious in the 64th Pakistan Amateur Golf Championship held in Karachi, delivering a remarkable comeback with birdies on the last six holes to secure the top position on the leaderboard. Despite not being in the top five by the third round, Saad finished the four-day event with an overall score of six-over-par, overcoming bogeys on the first and fifth holes of the final round before staging a strong recovery. He completed the fourth round with a four-under-par score, thanks to birdies on the sixth, tenth, eleventh, fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth holes, securing first place. Sri Lanka’s Danushan Kansas Kumar secured second place, while Shahmeer Majeed finished third with a nine-over-par score. Former leader Nauman Ilyas, who had dominated the third round, faltered on the final day with eight bogeys, dropping to fourth place. In the women’s category, Anya Fariq claimed the championship, while Anna James Gill took second place. At the closing ceremony, President of the Pakistan Golf Federation, Lt. Gen. (R) Qazi Muhammad Ikram, distributed prizes among the winners. The men’s team championship was won by Army, while the senior men’s team championship went to FGA. In the international team event, Pakistan A, comprising Saad Habib and Nauman Ilyas, secured victory, also lifting the Jeyawardene Trophy.



***Pakistan Cricket Captain
Salman Ali Agha
Dedicates Tri-Series
Victory to Flood Victims***



Sharjah (News Desk) – Pakistan cricket team captain Salman Ali Agha has dedicated the team’s tri-nation series victory to flood victims, announcing along with fast bowler Shaheen Afridi that they will donate their entire match fees from the series to the Flood Relief Fund. Salman Ali Agha said the team stands with the affected brothers and sisters in this difficult time and urged everyone to come forward unitedly to help flood victims. Shaheen Afridi added that the soil of the homeland demands support for flood-affected people, appealing to the nation to contribute generously to the relief fund.

***BCCI’s Bank Balance
Soars to ₹20,686 Crore,
Boosted by IPL and ICC
Revenues***

Mumbai (News Desk) – The financial strength of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) continues to grow, with its bank balance reaching ₹20,686 crore at the end of last year, compared to only ₹6,059 crore in 2019. According to a report, the BCCI recorded an increase of ₹14,627 crore over the past five years. The board’s accounts, presented at the 2024 AGM, showed that the general fund has risen from ₹3,906 crore in 2019 to ₹7,988 crore. Revenue from international tours dropped to ₹361.22 crore this year from ₹642.78 crore last year, while income from interest increased to ₹986.45 crore compared to ₹533.05 crore previously. Surplus income stood at ₹1,623.08 crore, higher than last year’s ₹1,167.99 crore, mainly due to earnings from IPL 2023 and funds received from the ICC.

***Carlos Alcaraz Defeats
Jannik Sinner to Win US
Open Title, Regains
World No.1 Ranking***

New York (News Desk) – Spanish tennis star Carlos Alcaraz defeated Italian rival Jannik Sinner to claim the US Open title, in a final delayed by 30 minutes due to the arrival of former U.S. President Donald Trump. Alcaraz won the first set 6-2, but Sinner bounced back to take the second 3-6. Regaining control, Alcaraz dominated the next two sets 6-1 and 6-4 to secure victory. The 22-year-old clinched his second US Open crown and sixth Grand Slam title overall. With this win, Alcaraz will reclaim the World No.1 ranking today (Monday), his first time at the top since September 2023, after ending Sinner’s 27-match hard court Grand Slam winning streak. Both players now hold four Grand Slam titles each, but Alcaraz leads their head-to-head record 10-5, asserting dominance in their rivalry. Trump’s presence added a dramatic layer to the historic final, as he waved to the crowd before the national anthem.