

Changing Weather in Islamabad Brings Lifestyle Shifts, Health Concerns, and Consumer Trends

Islamabad (News Desk) – As cooler and pleasant September days arrive following an unusually mild summer due to heavy rains and floods across the country, residents of Islamabad are adjusting their lifestyles by moving away from summer clothes and air conditioners towards light spring attire, outdoor tea gatherings, and natural ventilation, though the seasonal shift has also sparked rising cases of flu and allergies. Unlike previous years’ prolonged heat spells, frequent monsoon showers kept the capital relatively cool this summer, with refreshing rains and breezy evenings replacing suffocating heat. Markets in Centaurus Mall, Aabpara, G-9 Karachi Company, and F-10 Markaz report reduced demand for cotton T-shirts and shorts, with residents now preferring full-sleeve shirts, light jackets, and mid-season outfits, while tea stalls and cafés in F-6, F-7, and Jinnah Super are witnessing higher sales of hot beverages as families flock outdoors in the evenings. The decline in AC usage has eased electricity bills, yet doctors at Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) warn of health risks, particularly flu, fever, sore throats, and seasonal allergies, urging parents to keep school-going children warm during assemblies and advising citizens to stay hydrated and cautious of chilly winds. Pharmacies report increased sales of flu medicines and herbal remedies, while parks such as Fatima Jinnah and Shakarparian are once again filled with families enjoying evening walks and open-air gatherings. Weather experts predict cooler nights in the coming weeks, pushing demand for shawls, sweaters, and jackets, with many residents welcoming the refreshing change as a return to comfort and vitality after months of heat, marking Islamabad’s transition from summer to autumn with new consumer, health, and social trends.

China’s Producer Prices Drop 2.9% in August, Decline Narrows Amid Economic Growth Measures

Islamabad (News Desk) – China’s producer price index (PPI), which measures costs for goods at the factory gate, fell 2.9% year-on-year in August, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), though the decline narrowed by 0.7% from the previous month, marking the first such narrowing since March this year and indicating an improvement in industrial demand as the government works to bolster economic growth. On a monthly basis, the PPI ended its downward trend to remain steady in August after a 0.2% decline in July, while for the first eight months of the year, the PPI was down 2.9% compared to the same period in 2024. Meanwhile, China’s consumer price index (CPI), a key gauge of inflation, decreased 0.4% year-on-year in August, the NBS reported.



Punjab Government Allocates Rs 16 Billion for Flood Relief and Sewerage Upgrades in Gujrat

Gujrat (News Desk) – Punjab Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Bilal Yasin, visited rain-affected areas of Gujrat to review ongoing drainage and relief operations. Accompanied by Secretary of Housing Noorul Amin Mengal, Secretary Local Government Shakeel Ahmad, Commissioner Naveed Haider Sherazi, Deputy Commissioner Noor-ul-Ain Qureshi, and other officials, the minister inspected Jail Chowk, Fawara Chowk, Loran Chowk, and the DC Bund in Madina Syedan, assessing WASA’s performance and plans for a new sewerage system. At Fawara Chowk, Bilal Yasin distributed ration bags, flour, and water cans, assuring citizens of the Punjab government’s support. He highlighted that all resources were being utilized for relief and rehabilitation and praised district administration efforts over the past six days. The minister announced a special Rs 16 billion package to upgrade sewerage systems and infrastructure in Gujrat and other cities, including the establishment of new disposal stations at Loran Chowk, Nala Hailsey, and other sites to reduce future flood impact.

ANF Dismantles International Drug Network Operating Across Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Qatar

Rawalpindi (News Desk) – The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) dismantled an international drug network operating in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Qatar, recovering 5 kg of heroin and methamphetamine-soaked cloth while arresting key members of the syndicate. According to an ANF spokesman, the network procured drugs from Afghan suppliers, smuggled them into Pakistan in small quantities across the Pak-Afghan border, and later transported them to Gulf countries via air and sea routes. Once in Qatar, the drugs were distributed to other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries through online trade networks and logistics channels, including drivers moving goods through seaports. The ANF collected crucial evidence, identified smuggling routes and networks, and exposed links between the smugglers and organized mafias using modern trafficking methods and online platforms. This operation has significantly disrupted attempts to smuggle drugs into the Gulf. Following the successful GCC Conference in April 2025, ANF further strengthened cooperation with GCC member states to enhance counter-narcotics operations across air, land, sea, and port routes to dismantle international Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs). Despite limited resources and a workforce of only 3,000 personnel, the ANF continues to fulfill its national counter-narcotics responsibilities with utmost dedication.



US Consul General Thomas Eckert Meets KP Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, Discusses Investment and Cooperation

Peshawar (News Desk) – Newly appointed US Consul General in Peshawar, Thomas Eckert, called on Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi at the Governor’s House, where both sides discussed matters of mutual interest, bilateral relations, and avenues of cooperation in various sectors. Governor Kundi congratulated the Consul General on his new assignment and shared investment opportunities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa’s natural resources, highlighting the province’s longstanding ties with the United States and appreciating American support in development initiatives, particularly for the youth of merged districts. He stressed the exceptional talent of the province’s youth in sports and other fields and called for greater collaboration with international partners to harness their potential. The Governor also underlined key challenges, including terrorism and climate change, and urged special attention to the agriculture sector in the southern districts, where millions of acres of barren land could be made cultivable to bring about an agricultural revolution. Consul General Eckert thanked the Governor for his hospitality and reaffirmed the US commitment to strengthening cooperation and expanding joint projects across multiple fields.

ICT Police Arrest Two Suspects, Seize Automatic Rifles in Bhara Kahu Operation

Islamabad (News Desk) – Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police’s Bhara Kahu station team arrested two suspects and recovered modern automatic rifles during a major operation against criminal elements, carried out on the special directions of SP Rural Zone and SDPO Bhara Kahu under the supervision of SHO Ch. Rafaqat Gujar. According to details, ASI Shahzad Malik and ASI Muhammad Asim, along with their team, conducted snap checking at different points where they intercepted suspicious vehicles, and upon search, recovered sophisticated automatic rifles with magazines from two suspects who failed to provide any valid licence or legal permit. The recovered weapons were taken into custody, the suspects were arrested on the spot, and FIRs No. 671/25 and 672/25 were registered under AO 13/20/65 at Bhara Kahu police station, with further legal proceedings initiated. Police sources confirmed that investigations are underway to determine the suspects’criminal background and potential links with any gangs, while authorities reiterated their zero-tolerance policy against illegal weapons and criminal activities .

UN Urges Probe, Restraint After Deadly Nepal Protests Force PM Oli to Resign

United Nations (News Desk) – UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has called for a thorough investigation and restraint after deadly protests in Nepal left 20 people dead and forced Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli to resign, saying he was “deeply saddened by the loss of life” and urging dialogue to forge a constructive path forward while emphasizing that demonstrations must remain peaceful and authorities comply with human rights law. The unrest erupted after Oli banned social media, triggering mass protests in Kathmandu where demonstrators stormed and set fire to public buildings, political offices, parliament, and residences of top leaders, including the President’s Office, even after the ban was lifted. Oli was evacuated by helicopter and resigned shortly after, with several ministers and parliament members also stepping down, deepening the political fallout, while the Nepalese army took control Tuesday night. President Ramchandra Paudel has begun preparations to form a new government as nearly 350 people were reported injured. Expressing concern over the “unnecessary and disproportionate use of force”against largely young demonstrators, UN human rights chief Volker Turk urged both security forces and protesters to de-escalate the crisis, stressing that dialogue is the only way forward, while also condemning violent attacks on public and private property.

Muslim Candidate Zohran Mamdani Leads New York Mayoral Race with Bold Housing, Transit Plans

New York (News Desk) – Zohran Mamdani, a 33-year-old Muslim state assemblyman and Democratic nominee, has emerged as the front-runner in the New York City mayoral race, securing 46% support among likely voters, according to a New York Times/Siena College survey. His campaign promises, including a freeze on rent, free city buses, and city-run grocery stores, have struck a chord with voters. Former Governor Andrew Cuomo, running as an independent, trails with 24%, while Republican Curtis Sliwa holds 15% and incumbent Mayor Eric Adams just 9%, reflecting widespread dissatisfaction with Adams amid scandals. Born in Uganda, raised partly in South Africa, and later in New York, Mamdani represents Queens and is the son of Columbia University professor Mahmood Mamdani and Indian filmmaker Mira Nair. He speaks Urdu fluently and has built a diverse voter base, leading among Hispanics and narrowly ahead of Cuomo among Black voters. His rent-freeze proposal enjoys nearly 70% support, while his stance on Palestinian rights has given him a strong edge in foreign policy perception. Despite his popularity, doubts remain over his ability to deliver on ambitious promises, and Cuomo has intensified attacks, portraying him as inexperienced and ideologically extreme. The poll underscores a historic low for Adams, with nearly half of New Yorkers vowing never to support him, while Mamdani continues to be viewed as inspirational, caring, and a champion of ordinary residents.

