

DAILY PAKISTAN WATCH

10-12 October 2026

Security

- ◆ **Global Nuclear Watchdog Reviews Pakistan's Security Framework** — The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has completed its first International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) mission to Pakistan, conducted at the invitation of the government and hosted by the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority (PNRA). **The international team reviewed Pakistan's legal and regulatory framework for nuclear security and assessed the practical implementation of security arrangements.** Experts also visited the KANUPP Decommissioning Project, including the former Karachi Nuclear Power Plant Unit-1. **The IAEA commended Pakistan's cooperation, transparency and professionalism throughout the review and acknowledged its continued commitment to nuclear security.** PNRA Chairman stated that Pakistan accords the highest priority to the safety and security of its nuclear installations and remains committed to international cooperation and the peaceful use of nuclear technology. (*The Nation*, [10 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Pakistan Advocates Consensus and Diplomacy in Chemical Weapons Forum** — Pakistan has called for **stronger multilateralism, diplomacy and dialogue to resolve conflicts, alongside consensus-based decision-making** at the 113th Session of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Executive Council in The Hague. Leading the delegation, **Ambassador Syed Haider Shah, Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the OPCW**, highlighted growing challenges to multilateralism and stressed that diplomacy remains essential for peace and conflict resolution. He reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the **full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)** and emphasised the need to address emerging technologies and their implications for the treaty. Ambassador Shah also welcomed the restoration of Syria's OPCW rights and privileges, while underscoring **the importance of consensus-based decision-making to advance the convention's objectives effectively.** (*The Nation*, [10 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Security Forces Intensify Counterterrorism Operations in North Waziristan** — Pakistani security forces killed **seven militants during intelligence-based operations in North Waziristan**, according to security sources. The operation targeted members of **Fitna al-Khwarij**, and authorities reported the recovery of a **large cache of weapons and ammunition** from those killed. Officials stated that the action forms part of ongoing efforts under the **Azm-e-Istehkam vision**, aimed at eliminating militant elements and dismantling their networks in the region. **(Security forces would continue to conduct intelligence-based operations to eliminate terrorist elements and dismantle their networks.)** The operation reflects continued security efforts to counter militancy and strengthen stability in the area. (*The Nation*, [10 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **CTD Operation Foils Alleged Militant Plot in Tank** — Three alleged militants linked to the **Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Bhattani group** were killed during an exchange of fire with personnel of the **Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) and district police** in the Gharah Faqira area along Jandola Road in Tank district. According to officials, the operation was launched after **credible intelligence indicated that militants were planning a major terrorist activity.** Authorities stated that the suspects opened fire upon the arrival of security personnel, prompting a retaliatory



response. Two of the deceased were identified as Usama, son of Sultan, and Suleman, son of Wali Muhammad. **(According to preliminary CTD information, the slain militants had allegedly been involved in several terrorist incidents, including deadly improvised explosive device attacks.)** (*The News*, [10 October 2026](#))

- ◆ **CTD Operation Eliminates Ten Militants in Barkhan** — A targeted intelligence-based operation conducted by the **Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD)** in Balochistan's **Barkhan district** resulted in the deaths of **ten alleged terrorists** following an intense exchange of fire. According to Home Department officials, the operation was launched after intelligence reports indicated the presence of militants linked to **Fitna al-Hindustan** in the area. **A large quantity of arms, ammunition and explosives was recovered, while two CTD personnel sustained injuries during the operation.** Balochistan Chief Minister **Sarfraz Bugti** praised the security personnel, stating that **the country's security forces were playing an important role in eliminating terrorism and protecting the lives and property of citizens.** The operation forms part of continuing counterterrorism efforts amid persistent security challenges in the province. (*Dawn*, [11 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Centre Imposes Emergency in KP Amid Security Concerns** — The federal government has imposed a **state of emergency in 12 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and placed the province under governor's rule** after President Asif Ali Zardari approved recommendations made by the federal cabinet under Articles 232 and 234 of the Constitution. The emergency covers **Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, Lakki Marwat, Bannu, Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber, Kurram, Orakzai, North Waziristan, and South Waziristan, and the federal government also authorised the deployment of military resources in aid of civil power.** The government has established an Area Development Secretariat (ADS) to administer the affected districts. The federal cabinet stated that the decision stemmed from the provincial government's alleged **"deliberate disengagement from the fight against terrorism"**, while opposition party PTI rejected the move. (*Dawn*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Forces Foil Kurram Infiltration Bid, 12 Militants Killed** — Pakistani security forces thwarted an attempted cross-border infiltration into **Kurram district**, killing **12 militants during an exchange of fire**, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). The military said a group of militants was detected attempting to enter Pakistan from Afghanistan and was engaged by security forces. **The ISPR stated that Afghan Taliban positions also opened fire in support of the infiltration attempt, prompting a sustained response from Pakistani troops.** During the operation, Naib Subedar Hidayat Aman also died in action after **"fighting gallantly"**. The military reported that **the skilful and precise engagement by vigilant troops resulted in the killing of 12 khawarij and Afghan Taliban**, while successfully preventing the infiltration. (*Dawn*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Terrorism in KP Rises Sharply, Security Capacity Under Strain** — Security reports presented to the federal cabinet indicate that **terrorist incidents in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa increased by 195% between March 2024 and September 2026**, highlighting a worsening security situation in the province. The reports, prepared by provincial police and intelligence agencies, stated that **73% of attacks during 2026 targeted police and security personnel.** They also documented a significant shift in militant tactics, with **drone attacks rising from none in 2024 to 170 incidents by 2026**, alongside continued improvised explosive device (IED) attacks. The reports further highlighted major operational challenges, including **more than 9,000 vacant police posts and shortages of modern weapons, surveillance equipment and protected vehicles.** The reports stressed that **strengthening police and counterterrorism capabilities had become essential to counter evolving militant threats.** (*The Express Tribune*, [12 October 2026](#))

- ◆ **Army Deployed to Support Civil Administration in KP** — Following the imposition of emergency measures and governor's rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the federal government has authorised the **deployment of Pakistan Army troops and assets in aid of civil power** across the province. The authorisation, issued by the Interior Ministry under **Article 245 of the Constitution**, aims to ensure the safety of citizens, protect property and secure government installations. The deployment will remain in force for the duration of the emergency proclaimed under **Articles 232 and 234**. According to the notification, **KP Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, in consultation with the Military Operations Directorate at General Headquarters, will determine the required number of troops and assets. The deployment has been presented as a measure to support civil authorities in maintaining security and public order.** (*The Nation*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Asim Iftikhar Assumes Role as Pakistan's New Foreign Secretary** — Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad has arrived in Islamabad to take charge as **Pakistan's Foreign Secretary** after completing his tenure as the country's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. A seasoned diplomat, he brings extensive experience in **bilateral relations, multilateral diplomacy and international affairs**. His appointment comes at a time when Pakistan is pursuing active diplomatic engagement on regional security issues, peace efforts in the Middle East and stronger ties with key international partners. During his tenure at the United Nations, Ambassador Asim represented Pakistan on matters including **global and regional security, counterterrorism, sustainable development and multilateral cooperation**. His return marks a significant transition in Pakistan's diplomatic leadership at a critical foreign policy juncture. (*The Nation*, [12 October 2026](#))

Economy

- ◆ **CPEC 2.0 enters industrial and digital transformation** — Federal Minister for Planning and Special Initiatives **Ahsan Iqbal** has hailed the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as a “productive partnership” now shifting from infrastructure to industrialisation and digitalisation. He stressed that the **all-weather strategic cooperative partnership occupies a special place not only in foreign policies but also in the hearts of our peoples**. Over the past decade, **43 projects worth \$25 billion** have been completed, including **17 energy projects adding 8,900 MW** and major transport links, creating **200,000 jobs**. Iqbal noted that **CPEC 2.0 aligns with URAAN Pakistan**, focusing on growth, innovation, green development and regional connectivity. The new phase emphasises **business-to-business cooperation, industrial upgrading, agriculture modernisation, mineral development and digital corridors** spanning AI, e-commerce and cybersecurity. (*The Nation*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Farmers and traders press for urgent relief** — Pakistan Kissan Ittehad President **Khalid Mehmood Khokhar** has urged the government to **announce the wheat support price without delay**, warning that uncertainty is pushing growers towards sugarcane, which has already expanded by 16% in Punjab. He stressed that **a fair price with a profit margin would reduce imports and enable exports**, while also calling for modern irrigation, investment in research and new water storage to address a **25% water shortage**. Khokhar cited food insecurity highlighted in a World Bank report and urged farmers to vote wisely for leaders who support agriculture. Meanwhile, trader leaders including **Syed Jafar Ali Shah** demanded **special relief in electricity bills for small businesses**, arguing that inflation and high costs have crippled sales and livelihoods. (*The Nation*, [12 October 2026](#))

- ◆ **Pakistan expands olive cultivation with national drive** — Pakistan has planted **7.6 million olive trees across 60,456 acres in 131 districts**, aiming to promote commercial-scale cultivation. **Balochistan leads with 3.19 million plants over 24,620 acres in 31 districts**, followed by Punjab with 2.23 million plants over 17,000 acres and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with 1.65 million plants over 14,690 acres. Smaller plantations have also been recorded in AJK, Sindh, ICT and Gilgit-Baltistan. The **Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) contributed the largest share with 5 million plants**, alongside PIDSA, Olive Valley, the 5 Million Olive initiative and private efforts. Supporting infrastructure now includes **51 olive oil extraction units, laboratories, nursery tunnels and weather stations**, signalling a shift from plantation to processing and value addition. (*The Nation*, [12 October 2026](#))

Foreign Policy

- ◆ **Pakistan and Azerbaijan Pursue Stronger Economic Partnership** — Pakistan and Azerbaijan have agreed to deepen their bilateral relationship, with **Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Ilham Aliyev reaffirming their countries' "deep-rooted, fraternal and strategic partnership"** during a telephone conversation. The two leaders expressed satisfaction over growing cooperation and pledged to translate strong political ties into **closer economic, investment and commercial collaboration**. They also reviewed progress on bilateral initiatives, including the operationalisation of the **Asaan Khidmat Centre in Islamabad, modelled on Azerbaijan's ASAN Khidmet service delivery system**. President Aliyev agreed to support the expansion of the network across Pakistan at the prime minister's request. **The leaders stressed the importance of continued consultations on regional and international developments and efforts to promote peace and stability.** (*Dawn*, [11 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **President Warns Afghan Taliban Over Cross-Border Militancy** — **President Asif Ali Zardari** issued a strong warning to the Afghan Taliban administration, stating that Pakistan's patience, caution and restraint should not be mistaken for weakness. His remarks followed a security operation in **Kurram district** in which Pakistani forces foiled an infiltration attempt along the Pak-Afghan border. The president paid tribute to the security forces for their actions and reiterated Pakistan's determination to counter cross-border militancy. **He further stated that Pakistan possesses the capability to eliminate infiltrating terrorists and confront those supporting them.** **President Zardari warned that the Afghan regime's continued patronage and facilitation of terrorist elements posed a serious threat to regional peace and stability.** (*The Express Tribune*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Pakistan's new economic address explained** — In a commentary, economist **Dr Farrukh Saleem** clarified that the World Bank's October 2026 update reporting Pakistan as **48% of the extreme poor in the MENAAP region** refers to Pakistan's *share of regional poverty*, not its national poverty rate. He stressed that **"the denominator matters,"** noting Pakistan makes up 31% of the region's population but 48% of its poorest. The World Bank reclassified Pakistan in July 2025 from South Asia to the **Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan (MENAAP)** grouping, a statistical realignment rather than an economic downgrade. National poverty has risen from **22% to 29%**, but Pakistan remains a lower-middle-income economy. Saleem argued that the new alignment with Gulf economies offers opportunities in **capital and energy investment**, urging Pakistan to **"fix internal rifts — the next decade is ours."** (*The News*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Business body challenges Rs268bn tariff claims** — The **Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI)** has opposed an additional **Rs268 billion burden on consumers**

sought by former WAPDA distribution companies (Discos) through prior-year adjustments in power tariffs. In a detailed representation to NEPRA, FPCCI flagged “**inflated, disputed claims**” that had been previously disallowed or lacked verification, urging rejection of undifferentiated lump-sum demands. Collectively, the 10 Discos have sought **Rs2.64 trillion in revenue requirements for CY2027**, with PYAs forming a substantial share. FPCCI’s Energy Advisory Committee found Iesco’s claims exceeded **212% of its annual margin**, while Sukkur’s stood at **113%**. The body demanded written responses, public hearings and component-wise substantiation, warning that these retrospective charges “**are not routine formula-based true-ups and ought not to be approved.**” (*Dawn*, [12 October 2026](#))

Politics, Culture, Etc.

- ◆ **Bilawal and Rana Sanaullah Join Judicial Commission** — The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) has inducted **Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Chairman of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), and Senator Rana Sanaullah Khan, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Political Affairs**, as members following the resignations of PPP Senator Farooq H. Naek and PML-N representative Aftab Sheikh. **The appointments were approved by Chief Justice of Pakistan Yahya Afridi, who chairs the commission.** A JCP notification stated that both members were nominated from the treasury benches under Article 175A of the Constitution. The commission, reconstituted after the 27th Constitutional Amendment, is responsible for **recommending appointments to the Supreme Court, high courts and the Federal Constitutional Court**, with its recommendations forwarded to the President through the Prime Minister. (*The News*, [10 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Hindu Community Seeks Greater Representation on ETPB** — Representatives of Pakistan’s Hindu community have voiced concerns over their representation in the reconstituted **Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB)**, noting that Hindus have been allocated **four of the 15 non-official seats, while the Sikh community has received six.** Ramesh Jay Pal, a Hindu community representative, argued that the allocation does not reflect the demographic position of Hindus as Pakistan’s largest non-Muslim minority. He further pointed out that although seven non-official board members are from Punjab, none is Hindu, despite the province containing temples and other minority properties under the board’s jurisdiction. **Jay Pal demanded the federal government withdraw the notification and issue a revised one to ensure fair representation of the Hindu community in proportion to its population.** (*The News*, [10 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **WEF Article Urges Review of Pakistan’s Governance Structure** — A World Economic Forum (WEF) opinion piece argues that **Pakistan’s administrative arrangements are increasingly out of step with its demographic and economic realities** and calls for reconsideration of governance structures to bring decision-making closer to citizens. **Miroslav Zafirov, adviser to the Director General of the Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy and Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council**, notes that Pakistan’s population has grown to around 260 million while retaining only four main provinces. He argues that **administrative maps shape how governments raise revenue, allocate public funds, plan infrastructure, respond to shocks and measure performance.** While outlining options for creating additional administrative units, Zafirov cautions that reform must be accompanied by adequate resources, authority and accountability to avoid ineffective governance. (*The News*, [10 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Gilgit-Baltistan Tightens Security Measures for Foreign Nationals** — Gilgit-Baltistan police have decided to **strengthen security arrangements for foreign nationals, particularly Chinese citizens living and working in the region**, following a high-level review meeting chaired by Dr

Akbar Nasir Khan, Inspector General of Police (IGP), Gilgit-Baltistan. Senior officials assessed security protocols for foreigners involved in development projects, mining ventures and business activities across the region. **Authorities reviewed Special Protection Unit deployments, security measures at key entry points, and procedures for the movement of Chinese nationals in Gilgit, Skardu, Diamer and other districts.** The IGP ordered fresh threat assessments, security audits and stricter implementation of National Counter Terrorism Authority guidelines, warning that **negligence in ensuring the safety of foreign nationals, particularly Chinese citizens, would not be tolerated.** (*Dawn*, [11 October 2026](#))

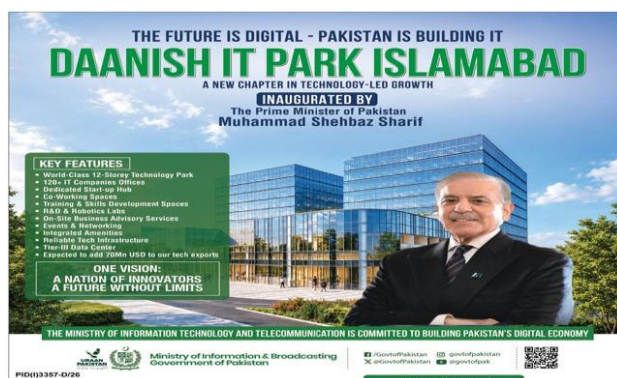
- ◆ **Legal Experts Describe KP Move as ‘Unprecedented’ Constitutional Step** — A report examining the federal government’s emergency measures in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa describes the simultaneous invocation of **Articles 232 and 234 of the Constitution** as an unprecedented constitutional development. The move places executive authority under the governor while limiting the role of the provincial government and legislature. **Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar** stated that the emergency would remain in force for an indefinite period, subject to parliamentary approval procedures. Commenting on the development, **Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President of the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency (PILDAT),** argued that **the federal government deliberately invoked both constitutional provisions because Article 232 alone would not have rendered the provincial assembly dysfunctional.** The report highlights the legal and political implications of this dual-track emergency framework. (*Dawn*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Afridi Rejects Emergency Measures and Governor’s Rule** — **Sohail Afridi, Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,** has vowed that the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) will resist any “illegal move”, including the imposition of **governor’s rule or an emergency in the province.** Addressing supporters during the party’s protest march, launched to demand the release of PTI founder Imran Khan, he declared that arrests and pressure tactics would not weaken the party’s resolve. Afridi said he would not accept decisions imposed through coercion and claimed he had refused to endorse measures he opposed. **The matter had gone beyond seats and power, and he was ready to “sacrifice” his position for Imran Khan and Pakhtuns.** The chief minister also signalled continued political mobilisation, with further announcements expected as the march progresses towards Swabi. (*Dawn*, [11 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Bilawal Urges PTI to Pursue Dialogue Over Confrontation** — **Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, Chairman of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP),** has advised Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) to abandon what he described as “extremist politics” and adopt a strategy of parliamentary engagement if it seeks the release of its founder, Imran Khan. Speaking at a public event in Karachi, he acknowledged that **PTI enjoys significant public support but argued that its confrontational approach was damaging its political prospects and disappointing its supporters.** Bilawal urged the party to return to parliamentary committees and dialogue with other political forces, maintaining that such an approach could better advance its objectives. **He warned that if PTI continued its current course, Imran Khan could remain imprisoned for a prolonged period, whereas abandoning confrontation could help achieve the party’s political goals.** (*Dawn*, [10 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Fazlur Rehman Seen as Potential Facilitator Between Government and PTI** — Amid escalating tensions between the government and Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI), attention has turned to **Maulana Fazlur Rehman, Chief of Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F),** as a possible facilitator for renewed dialogue. The report notes that while JUI-F’s parliamentary strength has diminished, the veteran politician retains influence because of his long experience in political negotiations and coalition-building. **Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President of the Pakistan Institute of Legislative**

Development and Transparency (PILDAT), argued that both sides appear to be seeking a face-saving solution and that **if anyone can bring both sides to the table, it is the Maulana**. Meanwhile, **Aslam Ghauri, JUI-F spokesperson**, clarified that Fazlur Rehman is acting as a facilitator rather than a formal mediator, with the priority being the resumption of dialogue. (*Dawn*, [10 October 2026](#))

- ◆ **Supreme Court Highlights Progress on Judicial Reform Agenda** — The **Supreme Court of Pakistan** has released a report titled “**Journey Through Reform and Innovation 2026**”, outlining judicial and institutional reforms implemented between November 2024 and September 2026. The report details progress in **case management, reduction of pending cases, digital transformation, institutional accountability and public access to justice**. It also documents the implementation of an **86-point reform action plan** supported by dedicated working groups and regular performance reviews. According to the report, the judiciary has recorded improvements in case disposals, handling of long-pending matters, expansion of digital services and data-driven monitoring. **The report also highlights national initiatives including time-bound disposal of prioritised cases, establishment of model trial courts, responsible use of artificial intelligence and development of judicial analytics.** (*Dawn*, [11 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **MQM-P Endorses Emergency Measures in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa** — The **Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P)** has backed the federal government’s decision to impose **governor’s rule and emergency measures in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, describing the move as necessary for safeguarding national security. Addressing a press conference, **Dr Farooq Sattar, senior MQM-P leader**, said terrorism and extremism remained the country’s greatest threats and affirmed the party’s support for decisions taken by state institutions. He argued that deteriorating security conditions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had compelled authorities to take difficult measures. **Sattar also urged the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) to clarify its position on governor’s rule**, noting that the presidential order had constitutional significance. **He warned that Sindh could face similar circumstances if militant networks and sleeper cells were not effectively addressed.** (*The Express Tribune*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **KP Bureaucracy and Police Undergo Major Shake-up After Emergency** — Following the imposition of **emergency measures and governor’s rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, the provincial administration has carried out a **wide-ranging reshuffle of senior bureaucratic and police officials**. Commissioners in six divisions were reassigned, with several officers appointed to new positions and others designated as Officers on Special Duty (OSDs). Multiple deputy commissioners across the province were also transferred and replaced. In a parallel move, the police department implemented extensive changes in senior ranks, including transfers involving regional and command-level positions. **The changes affect key administrative and law-enforcement offices across Peshawar, Kohat, Bannu, Hazara, Malakand and other districts.** The reshuffle is part of the administrative reorganisation undertaken after the Centre assumed greater control of provincial affairs under emergency arrangements. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **HRCP Urges Dialogue Amid Escalating Political Crisis in KP** — The **Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)** has cautioned that the imposition of **emergency measures and governor’s rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa** could deepen political polarisation and weaken democratic processes. The rights body called on the federal government and **Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)** to resume meaningful negotiations and resolve their differences through dialogue. **HRCP also stressed that citizens’ fundamental rights must not be curtailed under any pretext**, warning against actions that could further aggravate tensions in the province. Following the federal government’s decision, authorities launched a crackdown on participants in the PTI protest march,

while former chief minister **Sohail Afridi** was reportedly detained under public order laws. **The commission urged all stakeholders to prioritise dialogue and democratic engagement over confrontation.** (*The Express Tribune*, [12 October 2026](#))

- ◆ **Fazlur Rehman Rejects KP Emergency, Alleges Government Reneged on Talks** — **Maulana Fazlur Rehman**, Chief of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F), has strongly opposed the imposition of **governor's rule and emergency measures in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, accusing the federal government of backing away from commitments made during efforts to ease political tensions. He said his party would challenge the move through **courts, parliament and democratic forums**, describing it as unconstitutional. Recounting his recent mediation efforts, Fazlur Rehman claimed that both the government and opposition had sought his assistance and that the PTI's long march had refrained from moving towards Islamabad at his request to create space for dialogue. **He alleged that the government had deferred emergency plans during negotiations but later proceeded with the move, effectively undermining mediation efforts.** (*The Nation*, [12 October 2026](#))
- ◆ **Advisory council formed to assist KP Governor** — Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting **Attaullah Tarar** has announced an **11-member advisory council** to work under Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor **Faisal Karim Kundi** in running provincial affairs. Tarar said the selection was “**entirely on merit**,” balancing regional representation with expertise. Key appointments include **Kifayatullah Khan** (Home), **Tariq Mehmood Pasha** (Finance), **Amir Javed** (Law), **Dr Syed Amir Abdullah** (Education), **Lt Gen (retd) Nigar Johar Khan** (Health), **Dr Sarfaraz Ali Shah** (Mines and Minerals), **Dr Muhammad Irshad** (Industries and Commerce), **Asif Rafiq Afridi** (Communication and Works), **Maulana Muhammad Tayyab Qureshi** (Religious Affairs), **Osman Saifullah Khan** (Energy), and **MNA Samar Haroon Bilour** (Information). Tarar criticised the suspended PTI-led provincial government, accusing it of policies that caused thousands of deaths and of being soft on terrorists. (*The News*, [12 October 2026](#))



An advertisement published by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of Pakistan (GOP), in multiple newspapers across the country, highlighting the growing adoption of technology as a key driver of national growth and development.



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